

# Patient Information

## Derbyshire Wound Care Service

A new approach to wound care has been developed for patients in Derbyshire, to make sure everyone who needs it can receive expert care to heal their wound as quickly as possible.

### **Simple Wounds – requiring treatment for four weeks or fewer**

For these patients there will be no change in service, simply continue to attend for wound care appointments at your GP practice.

### **Complex Wounds – requiring treatment for more than four weeks**

Patients with more complex wounds will be referred to the new Derbyshire Community Health Service (DCHS) wound care service. This service will be provided by district nurse teams with specialist training. If your wound is taking more than four weeks to heal your GP practice will make this referral for you.

This specialist care helps complex wounds to heal more quickly. Evidence shows that complex leg ulcer wounds being treated by specialist teams heal more quickly than usual care, and almost always this is within fourteen weeks.

### **Community Dressings Clinics**

Care for complex wounds will usually be provided in community dressings clinics, most of which have been newly set up across Derbyshire. The clinics are largely based in existing buildings such as a community hospital or health centre. These dressings clinics run daily with a skilled team, and have the latest equipment and specialist advice.

### **How will this affect me? When will this happen?**

Patients who require ongoing care for simple wounds will remain under the care of their GP practice and continue to access the service in the same way. There will be no change.

Patients being seen by their GP practice for wound care who need complex wound care will be referred to a community clinic over the coming weeks. Details of the clinics nearest to you will be available at the time of referral.

### **Travel and transport**

It is recognised that for some patients these changes may mean travelling further to access care. Patients being seen in a wound care clinic based within a Community Hospital or a Minor Injuries Unit may be eligible for non-urgent patient transport. Please call EMAS on 0300 300 34 34 who will be able to advise if you meet the eligibility criteria for this service.

**Housebound patients** who require wound care will continue to be seen at home.

**Where can I get further advice or assistance?**

If you are having difficulties accessing local wound care services, please contact DCHS Patient Experience team on:

Telephone: 01773 525119

Email: [DCHST.patientexperienceteam@nhs.net](mailto:DCHST.patientexperienceteam@nhs.net)

If you wish to provide feedback on these changes, please contact NHS Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group Patient Advice and Liaison Service on:

Telephone: 0800 032 32 35

Text mobile facility no: 07919 466 212

Email: [DDCCG.PALS@nhs.net](mailto:DDCCG.PALS@nhs.net)