I.V Lymphoedema Network Wales Lymphorrhoea Pathway for further advice on Lymphorrhoea management

GIG CYMRU NHS WALES | Cydweithrediad Iechyd GIG Cymru NHS Wales Health Collaborative

Appendix 2

Lymphoedema Network Wales

The Chronic Oedema 'Wet Leg' (Lymphorrhoea) Pathway

Does the limb have clinical signs of infection/cellulitis?

- Red/spreading erythema
- Warm to touch
- Painful
- Patient systemically unwell/flu like symptoms or malaise?

Yes

Refer to GP for Cellulitis management following the All Wales Antimicrobial Guidance. Lymphoedema is on page 23

Primary Care Antimicrobial Guidelin

Ensure the legs are washed effectively with a bowl of water, washing emollient, dried and moisturised as per local formulary

To promote comfort, manage leaking and provide support

LEVEL ONE SUPPORT BANDAGING:

- Apply an absorbent dressing & non-adherent layer if necessary from local formulary
- One layer of blue/yellow line tubular stockinette
- Minimum of 3 rolls of wool padding
- One layer of blue/yellow line tubular stockinette

This support can remain in place for up to 48 hours unless leakage or slippage is evident

A DOPPLER IS NOT REQUIRED

No

Refer to local lymphoedema service - contact Lymphoedema.network.wales@wales.nhs.uk for information

Ensure the legs are washed effectively with a bowl of water, washing emollient, dried and moisturised as per local formulary

To promote comfort, manage leaking and provide support

LEVEL ONE SUPPORT BANDAGING:

- Apply an absorbent dressing from local formulary
- One layer of blue/yellow line tubular stockinette
- Minimum of 3 rolls of wool padding
- One layer of blue/yellow line tubular stockinette

A DOPPLER IS NOT REQUIRED

LEVEL TWO SUPPORT BANDAGING:

If there is no history of arterial disease or any arterial symptoms as per holistic assessment it is considered safe to apply 14-17mmhg pressure.[1]

A DOPPLER IS NOT REQUIRED

- Apply an absorbent dressing from local formulary
- One layer of blue/yellow line tubular stockinette
- Minimum of 3 rolls of wool padding
- Apply Short Stretch Bandage *inelastic* (*10cm width*) in a spiral application from the base of the toes up the leg with a 50% overlap & stretch up to the knee. Apply toe bandages if toes are swollen.

LEVEL THREE COMPRESSION BANDAGING:

Collaboration with *local* lymphoedema service or TVN prior to commencement of compression which includes two layers of Short Stretch Bandage (*10cm width*) at full stretch.

Unmanaged lymphorrhoea can cause skin maceration, increase the risk of infection and development of chronic wounds. Legs will continue to leak if not supported

Has patient got wet eczema? Yes - Ensure you follow local guidance on topical steroid management. Has the patients got a wound? Yes - Follow local guidance for referral to TVN

The Chronic Oedema 'Wet Leg' (Lymphorrhoea) Pathway v3.0 FINAL 12.08.2019 11

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