

Connected Wound Care

Partnerships informing wound management

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Connected Wound Care Project Officer



Acknowledgements

Department of Health, Victoria

Auspice Agencies

Royal District Nursing Service, (RDNS)

Bendigo Health Service

Barwon Health Service

Department of Health, Grampians Region

Goulburn Valley Health

Western District Health Service: Hamilton Campus

Latrobe Community Health Service

This project received funding from the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments under the Home and Community Care (HACC) program

Background Context:

Strengthening wound management initiative (Regional Wounds Victoria)

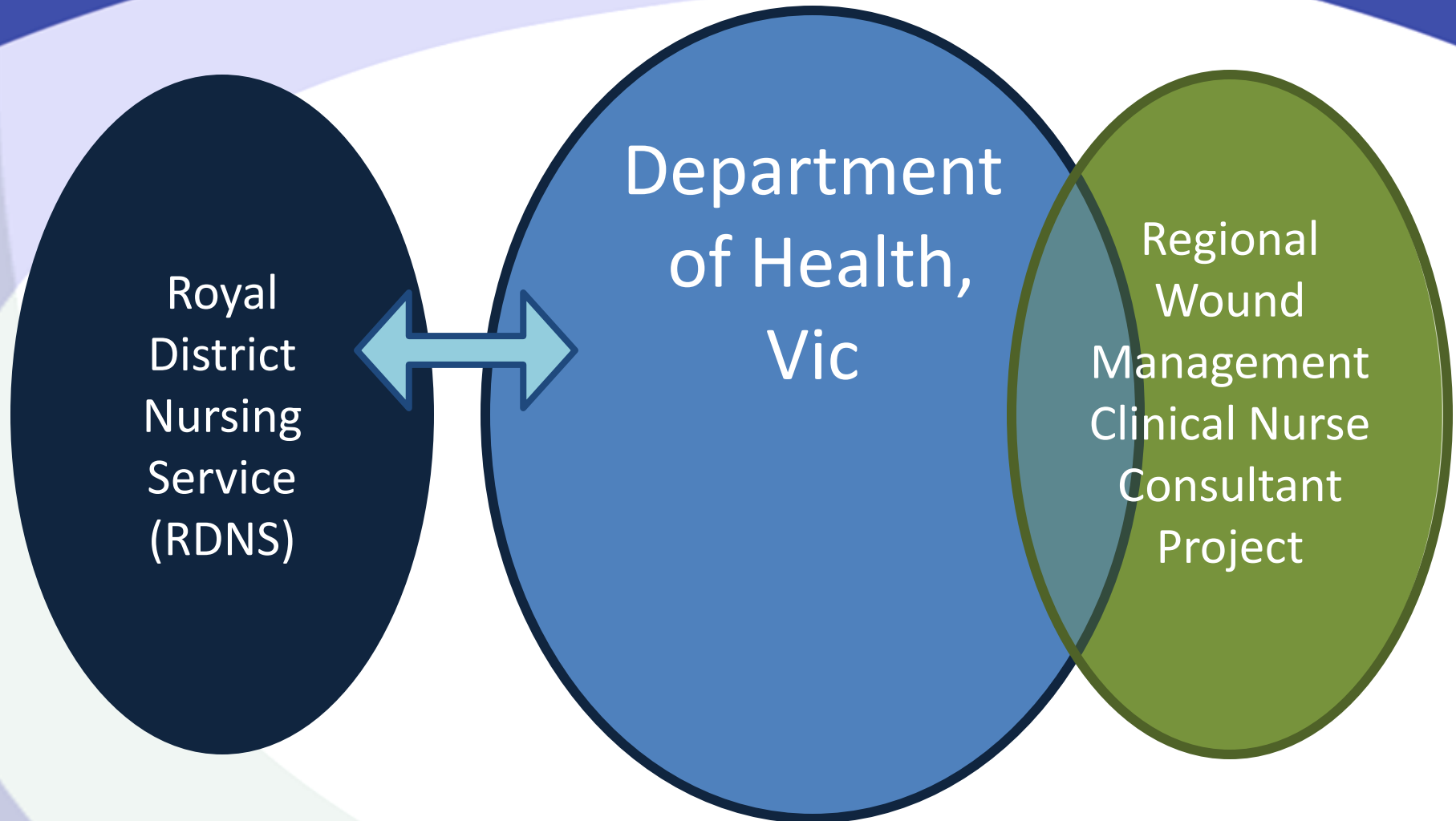


- No equitable access to Wound Management consultants or wound education across Regional areas across the State
- Strengthen wound management practices across the state for PSRACS and DNS
- Develop approaches to address systemic barriers to good wound management
- Provide staff with expert advice, onsite and general support and specialist training

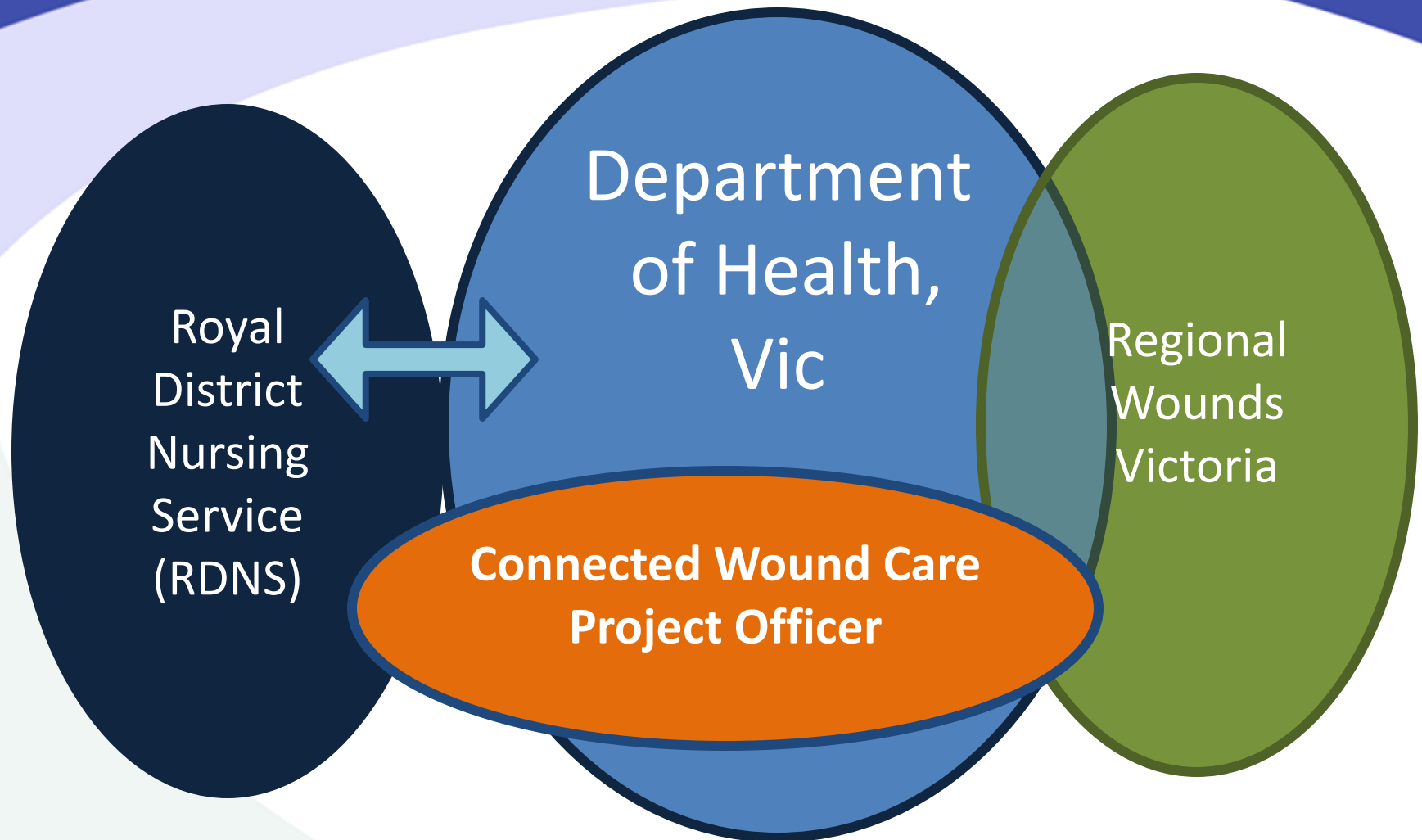
Background Context: Royal District Nursing Service

- Home nursing and health care across VIC, NSW, Tasmania and New Zealand
- Clinical Nurse Consultants in wound management consulting and educating on the ground
- Research and education program
- No formal pathways for Clinical Nurse Consultants to collaborate in wound care state wide

Communication Pathway Before Connected Wound Care



Communication Pathway with Connected Wound care



Connected Wound Care Team



Project Challenges

- Geographical constraints
- Intellectual property constraints
- Communication issues
- Prejudices



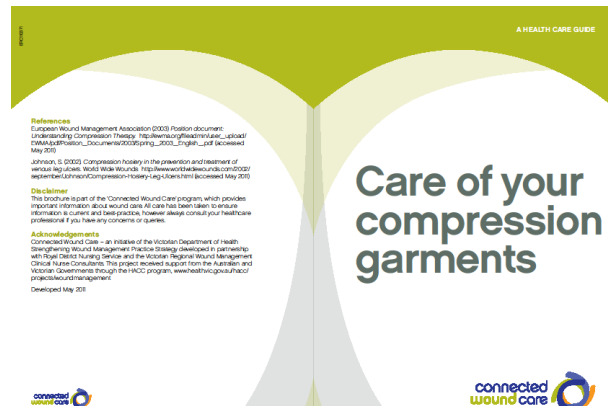
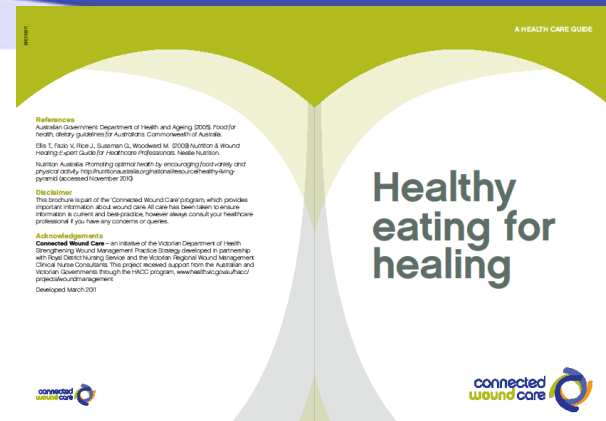
Challenges of developing and implementing resources

- Meeting the needs of different service types and staff skill mix
- Gaining consensus regarding best practice
- **Resolution**
 - Agreement to target resources to evidence based standard rather than target specific skill levels
 - Sharing of live spreadsheets on the internet to summarise disputed points and enable interactive responses.
 - Seeking expert opinion from relevant clinicians

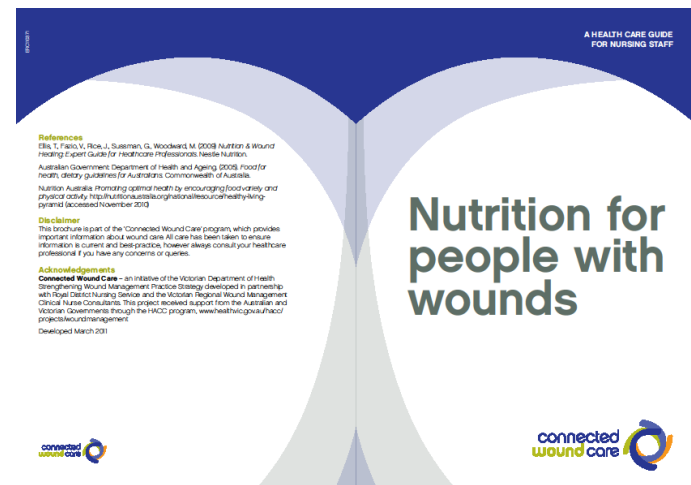
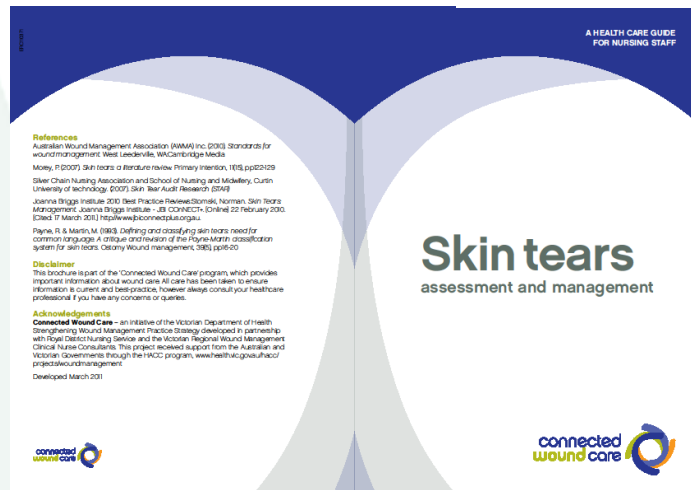
Connected Wound Care: Phase 1 resources



Connected Wound Care: Individual Health Care Guides



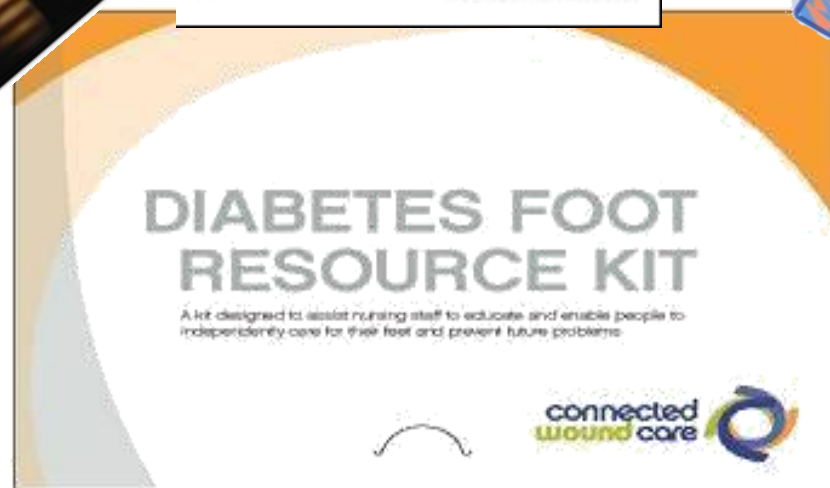
Connected Wound Care: Nursing Health Care Guides



Connected Wound Care: Diabetes Foot Resource Kit



Basic Foot Assessment Checklist and Action Plan			
1. Test the patient			
Can patient perform?	Yes	No	
Foot numb?	Yes	No	
Foot warm/cool?	Yes	No	
Foot dry/moist?	Yes	No	
Foot red/white?	Yes	No	
Foot swollen?	Yes	No	
Foot itchy?	Yes	No	
2. Look at the foot			
Is there a wound?	Yes	No	
Is there a blister?	Yes	No	
Is there a callus?	Yes	No	
Is there a corn?	Yes	No	
Is there a nail problem?	Yes	No	
Is there a skin problem?	Yes	No	
3. Check the patient			
Can patient perform?	Yes	No	
Foot numb?	Yes	No	
Foot warm/cool?	Yes	No	
Foot dry/moist?	Yes	No	
Foot red/white?	Yes	No	
Foot swollen?	Yes	No	
Foot itchy?	Yes	No	
4. Treat the wound			
Is there a wound?	Yes	No	
Is there a blister?	Yes	No	
Is there a callus?	Yes	No	
Is there a corn?	Yes	No	
Is there a nail problem?	Yes	No	
Is there a skin problem?	Yes	No	
5. Document the results			
Is there a wound?	Yes	No	
Is there a blister?	Yes	No	
Is there a callus?	Yes	No	
Is there a corn?	Yes	No	
Is there a nail problem?	Yes	No	
Is there a skin problem?	Yes	No	
6. Review the results			
Is there a wound?	Yes	No	
Is there a blister?	Yes	No	
Is there a callus?	Yes	No	
Is there a corn?	Yes	No	
Is there a nail problem?	Yes	No	
Is there a skin problem?	Yes	No	
7. Review the results			
Is there a wound?	Yes	No	
Is there a blister?	Yes	No	
Is there a callus?	Yes	No	
Is there a corn?	Yes	No	
Is there a nail problem?	Yes	No	
Is there a skin problem?	Yes	No	



Front

Phase 2 & 3

July 2011-2013

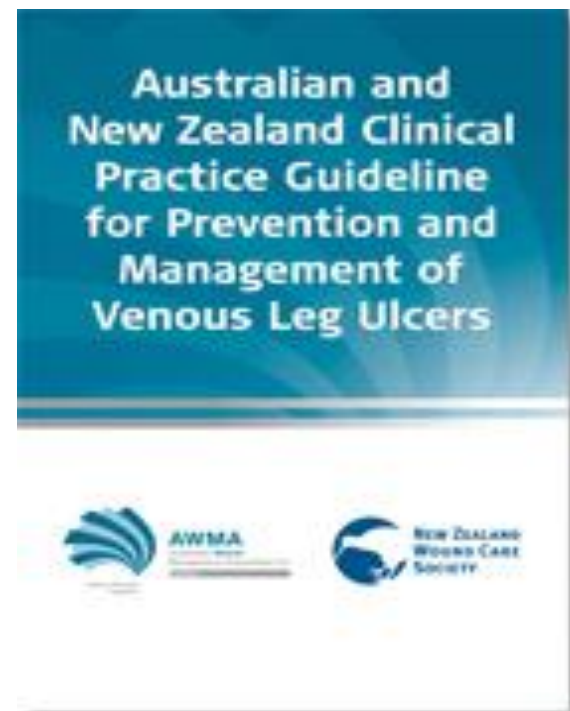
- Due to the success of the project, Phase 2 & 3 implemented until July 2013
- Further distribution of resources
 - SACS wound clinics
 - HACC funded metro DNS



Phase 2 & 3

July 2011-2013

- National Venous Leg Ulcer Guidelines launched
- Survey of services identified wound training needs around leg ulcer management a priority



What is the focus?

- E Learning package;

**“Compression
Bandaging in the
Management of
Venous Leg Ulcers”**



E- learning package

- Incorporates multiple learning mediums
- Theory associated with venous leg ulcers
- Animations
- Links to health care guides
- Video demonstrations of bandaging systems
- Bandaging Skills checklist
- Quiz and certification



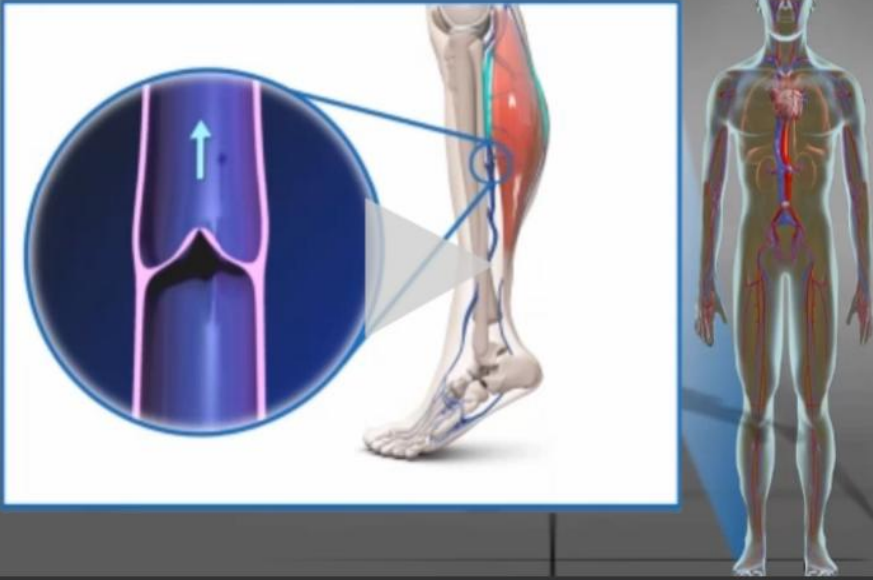
Animation

Grampians Loddon-Mallee | ONLINE LEARNING PORTAL

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[My Training](#) > Compression Therapy in the Management of Venous Leg Ulcers

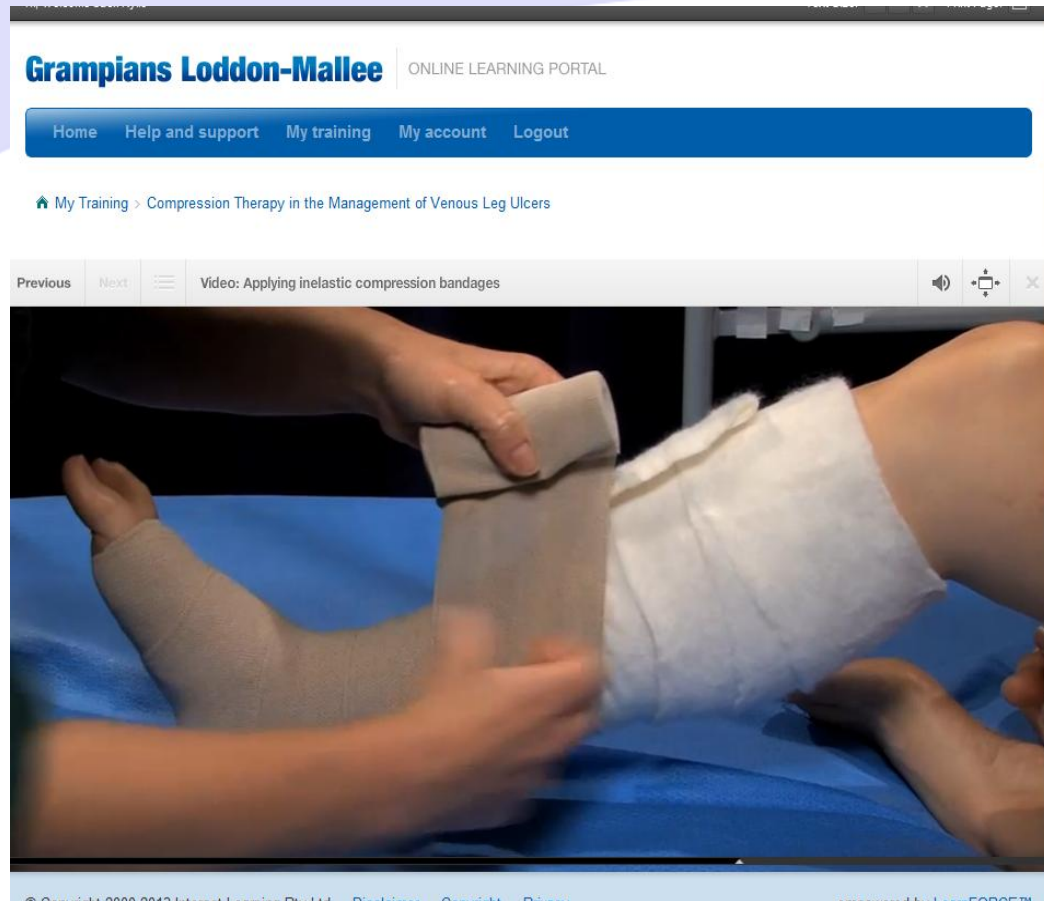
Previous Next Video: Hydrostatic Pressure



The diagram illustrates the concept of hydrostatic pressure in the venous system. On the left, a circular inset shows a cross-section of a blood vessel with a blue arrow pointing upwards, indicating the direction of fluid flow. This inset is connected by a blue line to a larger anatomical illustration of a human leg. The leg shows the internal venous system, with a blue line tracing the path of the venous system from the foot up to the thigh. To the right of the leg, a full-body human figure is shown, with the venous system highlighted in blue, illustrating the systemic circulation. The figure is standing, and the venous system is shown throughout the body, from the head down to the feet.

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Video Demonstration



Bandaging skills checklist

Page 1 of 2

Skills assessment checklist for compression bandaging systems

Element of skill	Performance criteria	Signature of nurse	Signature of assessor
1 Assessment	Provides documentation of completion of a lower limb assessment and care plan which includes recommendation of compression bandaging system		
	Can rationalise why the bandaging system chosen is the most appropriate for the individual		
2 Preparation of individual	Explains the procedure to the individual or relevant others, including ✓ the need for adherence to the treatment ✓ the bandaging process		
	Explanation considers the individual's concerns and perceptions regarding the treatment		
	Obtains consent		
	Undertakes all steps necessary to eliminate or reduce any pain experienced		
3 Procedural preparation	The individual is positioned comfortably and in accordance with local occupational health and safety guidelines for compression therapy to be applied safely		
	Infection control strategies are considered in line with local guidelines		
	The appropriate equipment has been sourced		
	Able to explain the technique of application of the bandaging system to be used		
4 Performance of procedure <small>(continued next page)</small>	Previous bandages are removed and the limb inspected for signs of compression related damage		
	Prepares the leg and wound as per care plan		
	Padding is applied as required, taking caution to protect bony prominences		
	Padding promotes the natural contours of the limb, or reshapes it so there is a gradual increase in circumference, (narrower at the ankle, and wider at the calf)		
	Ensures ankle circumference is greater than 18 cm, (padded), prior to commencing bandage layers		

Benefits of the course

- Clients with Venous Leg Ulcers will be receiving evidence based care
- Agencies can be certain that all staff are skilled in compression bandaging for venous leg ulcers
- Contributes toward consistency of care and practice for clients

When?

- The course is currently being piloted in the Grampians region
- Full launch will occur in September



Conclusion

The project enabled;

- Distribution of standardised wound resources & education state-wide to improve outcomes for clients with VLU's
- **Shared insight into wound management can occur between multiple agencies AND, outcomes which positively impact on the individuals we care for are achievable together**

Access further information from:

www.health.vic.gov.au/hacc/projects/woundmanagement