

BEST PRACTICE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WOUND SPECIMENS

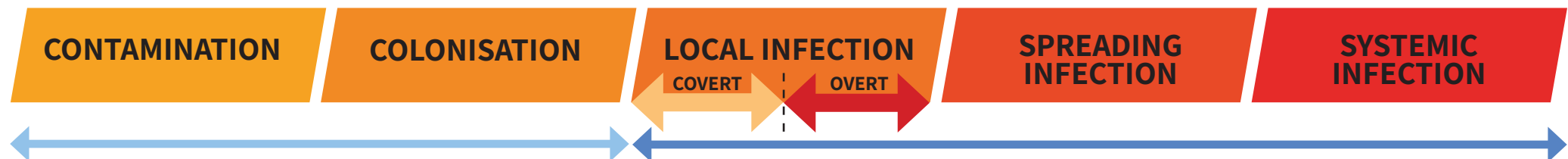


CwPAMS is funded by the UK Department of Health and Social Care's Fleming Fund using UK aid. The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the UK Department of Health and Social Care.



Reference: IWII-CD-2022-web.pdf (woundsinternational.com)
 This is a simplified version and not comprehensive - additions and modifications to fit local practice are encouraged.

MICROBIAL LOAD AND/OR VIRULENCE



Vigilance required:
 1. Clean wound and apply dressing, for correct sampling method, refer to wound sampling checklist.
 2. **Do not send wound swab**
 3. **Do not start antibiotics**

Microorganisms present but no infectious concerns and no delay to healing – risk of antibiotic side-effects outweigh benefits

INTERVENTION – CLEANSE WOUND, TAKE SAMPLE*, START ANTIBIOTICS, SEND BLOOD CULTURE IF POSSIBLE

- Hypergranulation
- Bleeding
- ↑ Exudate
- Erythema
- Warmth
- Swelling
- Purulent discharge
- ↑ Pain
- Delayed wound healing / breakdown

- Extending induration
- Spreading erythema;
- Inflammation >2cm from wound edge
- Wound breakdown;
- Lymphangitis

- Malaise
- Lethargy
- Loss of appetite
- Fever
- Severe sepsis
- Organ failure

*see SOS wound sample checklist