

Guidance: treating suspected infection of enteral stoma site

v2.2 August 2023

GP / DOCTOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refer patient to GP/ ward doctor for initial review of stoma site• Follow guidance as per steps below
SWAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Swab stoma site and send for culture/sensitivity to ascertain microbial infection (before cleaning site)• Clean site with Prontosan wash 2-3 times daily until results known
TREAT AND REVIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If infection appears localised, commence treatment with topical antimicrobial/corticosteroid combination cream such as Fucidin H (this can be started prior to return of swab results)• If infection suspected to be systemic await swab results in order to prescribe topical/systemic drug as recommended by microbiologist• Clean stoma site 2-3 times daily with Prontosan wash• Apply antimicrobial cream 2-3 times daily after cleaning• Apply polyurethane foam or gauze keyhole dressing as needed• Review at least every 2 weeks until healed
HEALED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Once stoma site fully healed, ensure prescribed dressings/cream/ drugs are discontinued as no longer needed. Amend Prontosan wash to once daily maintenance dose
MONITOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to monitor the stoma site daily for signs of recurrent infection and ensure that the tube is secured firmly to the abdomen at all times
REFER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If no improvement to stoma site and infection continues, complete the enteral referral form on EPR