

Guidance: treating suspected infection of enteral stoma site

PREVENTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure stoma site is cleaned daily and thoroughly dried to avoid moisture built up• Ensure that fixation device is secured 0.5cm from abdomen to reduce tube movement within tract and use securement device such as Cinch to hold end of tube• Check that neither the stoma site nor the enteral tube is irritated by clothing or other restrictions
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
TREAT & REVIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clean stoma site 2-3 times daily with Prontosan wash• If infection appears localised, commence treatment with topical antimicrobial/corticosteroid combination cream such as Fucidin H• Apply antimicrobial cream 2-3 times daily after cleaning• Apply polyurethane foam or gauze keyhole dressing as needed• If infection suspected to be systemic, swab and await results and then consider topical/systemic drug as recommended by microbiologist• Review at least every 2 weeks until healed
REFER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If remains unresolved: swab site if not done so already and continue with topical treatment while awaiting swab results. Consider systemic drug as recommended by microbiologist• If no improvement to stoma site and infection continues, complete the enteral referral form on EPR
MONITOR	<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• Continue to monitor the stoma site daily for signs of recurrent infection