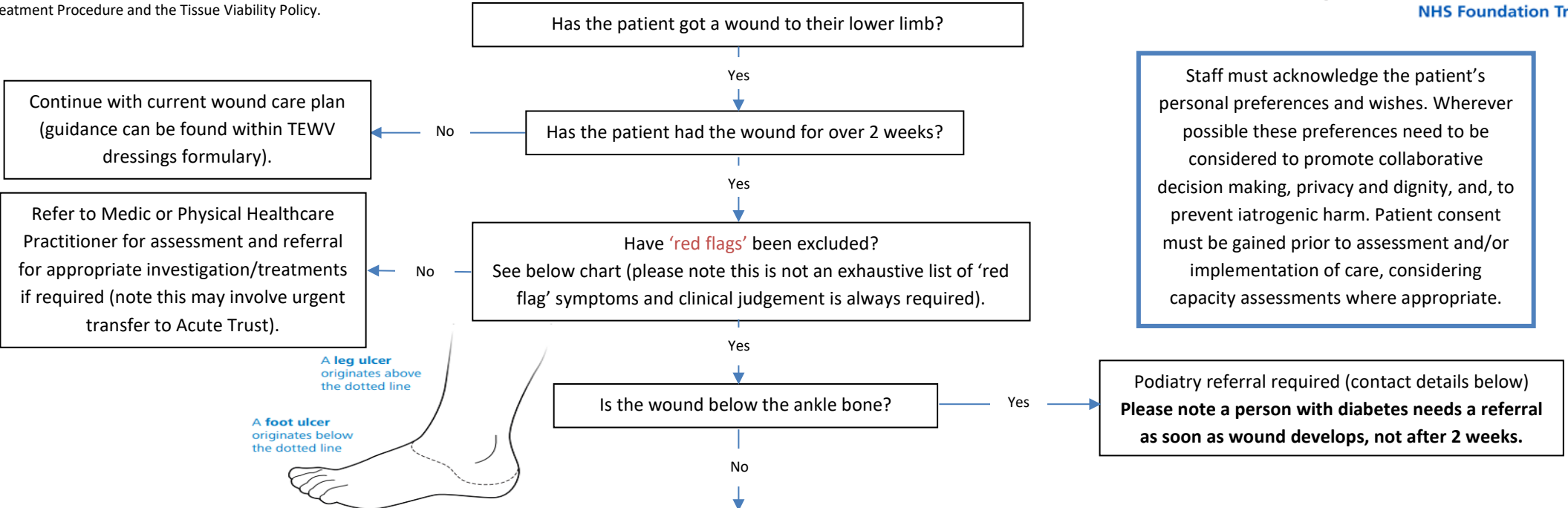



Lower Limb Wound Protocol

This protocol should be read alongside the Consent to Examination or Treatment Procedure and the Tissue Viability Policy.



- Refer to TEWV Tissue Viability Service – complete appropriate referral form and email to tevv.tissueviability@nhs.net. Patient will receive lower limb assessment within 14 days of referral.
- Note this is for inpatients only. A person accessing our community services will need a referral to the appropriate community clinician e.g. District Nurse or Practice Nurse.
- Apply a simple dressing appropriate to tissue type and exudate levels (guidance can be found within TEWV dressings formulary).

Red Flags

Acute infection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unilateral leg redness that is well demarcated• Pyrexia• Heat• Pain• Oedema• Possible skin blistering 		Acute or chronic limb threatening ischaemia: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New, constant pain• Pulseless• Skin pallor or cyanosed• Reduced sensation or numbness• Cold• Sudden onset 	
Suspected Acute DVT: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unilateral lower limb/calf pain• Unilateral lower limb/calf swelling• Unilateral lower limb/calf redness• Recent immobility		Suspected skin cancer: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overgranulation that is unresponsive to treatment• Raised/rolled wound edges• Irregular/nodular appearance	Symptoms of sepsis: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Altered behaviour or mental state• Raised respiratory rate• Low blood pressure• Reduced urine output• Raised heart rate• Raised or low temperature

Lower Limb Wound Protocol

This protocol should be read alongside the Consent to Examination or Treatment Procedure and the Tissue Viability Policy.

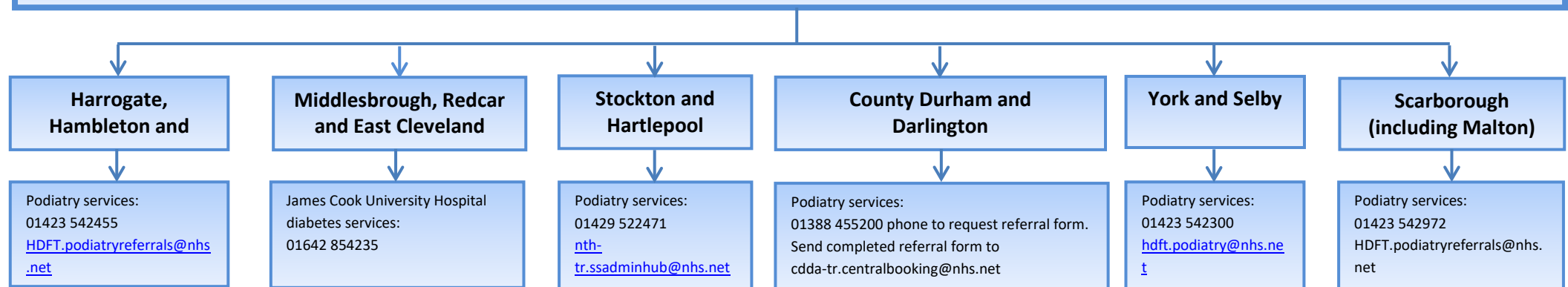
As per above flow chart, all people with a wound below the ankle require a referral to podiatry.

For inpatients contact locality based on ward location.

For discharge planning/community patients contact locality based on discharge destination/home address.

For any lower limb wounds above the ankle see above flow chart.

Person has diabetes diagnosis – urgent same day referral required stating ‘active diabetic foot wound’



Person does not have diabetes diagnosis – refer within one working day

