

## Background

Vascular wounds have always been managed closely by vascular specialists, podiatrist and specialized wound nurses in inpatient and outpatient settings. Lack of expertise in the community has resulted in increased care burden and cost; as well as limited care options and poor treatment compliance especially for clients who are home bound or have difficulties in accessing hospital-based care settings.

## Methodology

Community Vascular Wound Management service is a joint collaboration among Changi General Hospital's community nurses, Vascular Advanced Practice Nurses, wound specialist nurses and vascular surgeons. The target patient profile and service scope are as follows:



### Target Patient Profile

Patients with vascular wounds, which requires close monitoring, advanced wound related procedures and one of the followings:

- 1 Home bound due to disabilities or environmental constraints
- 2 Having issues with escort arrangements for institution-based appointments
- 3 Having conflicting treatment schedules / medical appointments e.g. dialysis



### Service Scope

- 1 Assessment and close monitoring of wounds
- 2 Advanced wound-related nursing procedures
- 3 Management of pain, co-morbidities / risk factors that affect wound healing
- 4 Early identification of red flags of wound deterioration/infection and fast track for early review by specialists
- 5 Individualized patient and caregiver education and training

## Results / Outcomes

Month of October to December 2018	
Number of referral received	11
Number of enrolment to service	11
Number of patient re-admitted due to worsening of wound	0
Number of home visit done	98

100 % take up  
& compliance  
rate by the  
patients/  
caregivers

I do need to go out every day for my appointment and dialysis. I can stay at home and wait for nurse to come to dress my wound.

Mr S

I do not need to wait for very long in the clinic.

Mr C



I do not need worry about arranging transportation.  
Mdm T's Daughter

I do not need to take leave and sent my husband to clinic to change his NPWT dressing.  
Mr K's Wife

60% cost  
saving + 75%  
time saving for  
patients/  
Caregivers!



2 months



6 months

## Conclusion

Community Vascular Wound Management service allows patients to recover at their preferred place of care at lower cost with greater comfort. It promotes positive patients' experience and compliance to wound management, which ultimately results in better wound healing and greater savings and benefits to the healthcare system.