

# WOUND MANAGEMENT ALGORITHM

- for lesions in chronic stage -

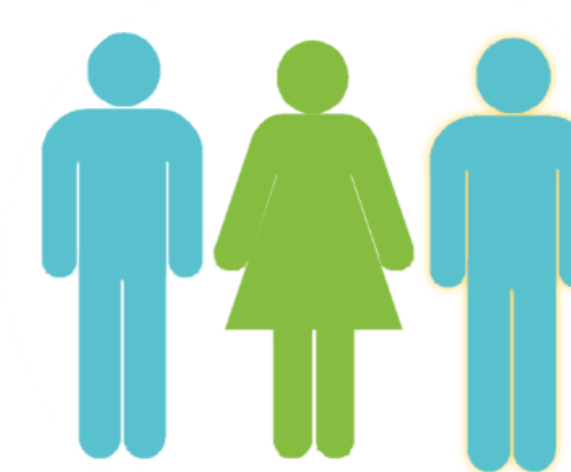
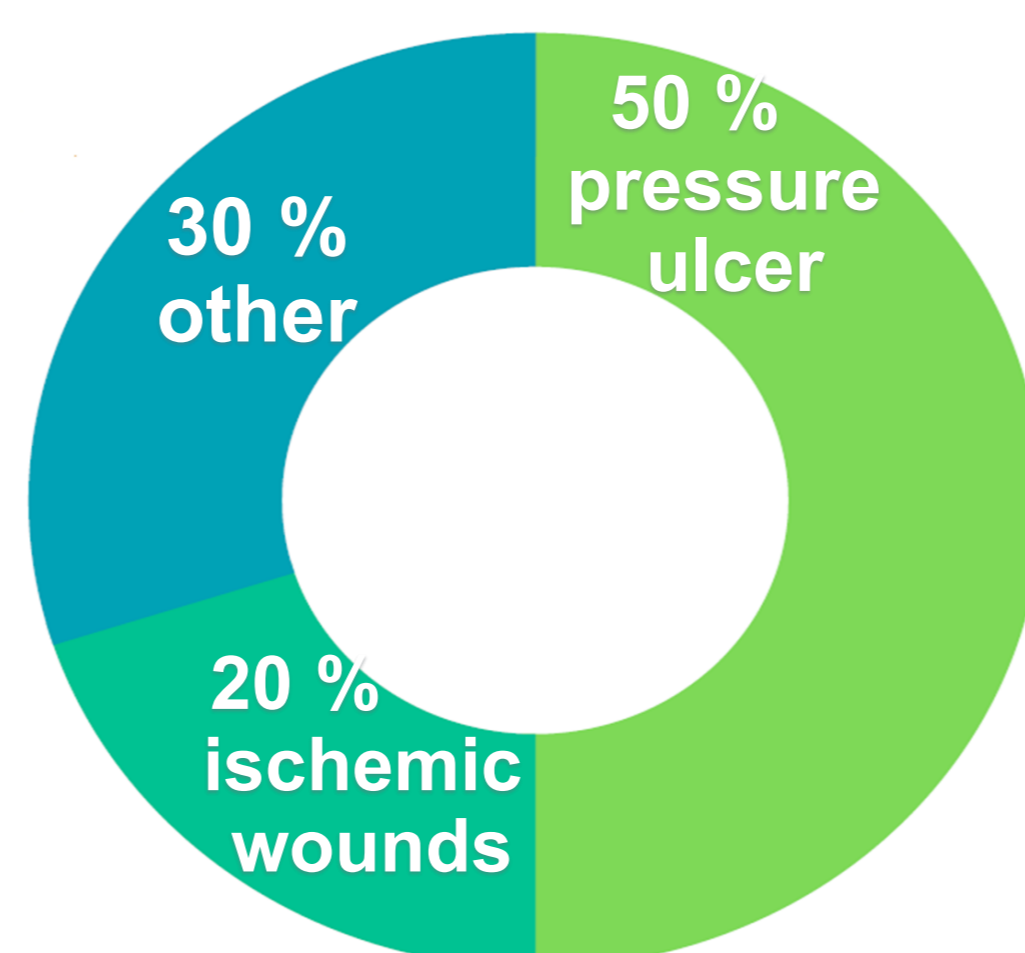
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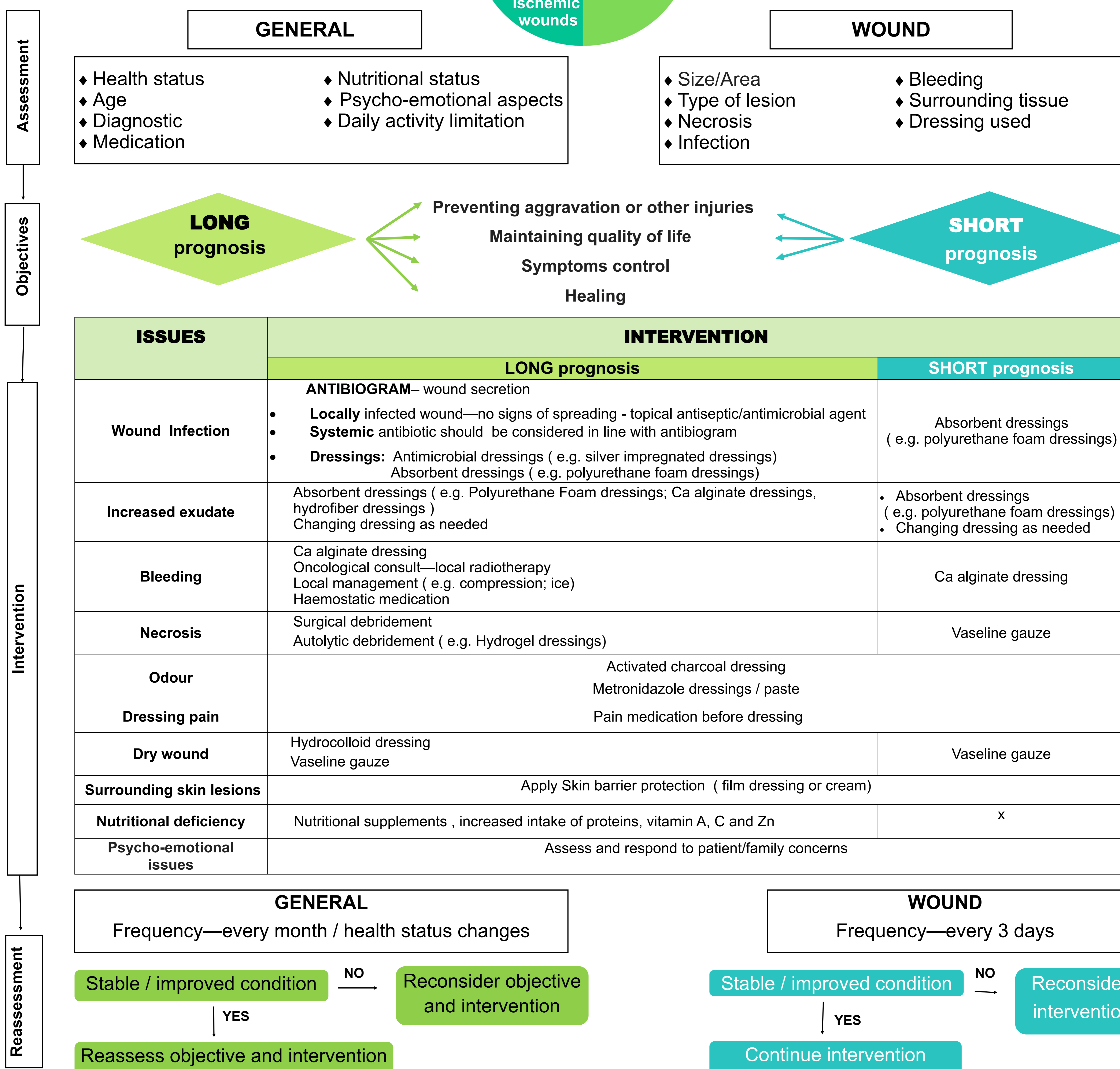
**Introduction:** One of the main challenge that palliative care (PC) professionals face is the management of chronic wounds (CW), like pressure sores and fungating tumours. Patients with CW show several factors that slow down the healing process and induce a general discomfort.

**Aim:** The development of a clinical algorithm is meant to synthesize the already existing knowledge and to elaborate specific recommendations for a proper, evidence based, nursing practice for patients with CW.

**Material and method:** Literature review on CW management; PC nurses focus groups analysing relevant articles, studies and guides; studies of 50 patients files with CW .



**35 % patients in palliative care have chronic wounds**



**Conclusion:** A study was made in an inpatient PC service for a period of 6 months (January—June 2018). Using items on this algorithm, the study assessed how pressure sore are treated and it showed the following results:

**Stage of pressure ulcer**  
 17.14% Stage 1    35.72% Stage 2  
 30.00% Stage 3    17.14% Stage 4

46% **LONG** prognosis  
 54 % **SHORT** prognosis

**Objectives**  
 46% symptom control and healing  
 54% maintaining quality of life and symptom control

All patients had same complex assessment.

**Identified issues**

11.43% wound infection	38.57% increased exudate
4.29% bleeding	18.57% necrosis
8.57% odour	55.71% surrounding skin lesions
38.57% nutritional deficit	31.43% psycho-emotional issues

**Type of dressings**

44.00% hydrocolloid dressing	5.71% silver impregnated dressing
22.86% polyurethane foam dressing	31.43% Ca alginate dressing
32.86% Vaseline dressing	