

## Department of Dermatology, Allergy and Skin Surgery

### Attending the Leg Ulcer Clinic

**Please take a few minutes to read this information leaflet before attending the Leg Ulcer Clinic. Clinics are held at Amersham and Stoke Mandeville Hospitals – please check your appointment letter to see where you are attending.**

Your GP has requested an appointment for you to be reviewed by the Dermatology team to assess your legs. This may involve you having the blood pressure in your arms and your legs taken; this procedure is called a Doppler reading, and will be carried out by the Dermatology nurses. The results from these readings will help us determine a plan of care for you.

The practitioner may wish you to have some other tests while you are in the department. These may include a blood test, swabs from any wounds and a urine test, so please bring a urine sample with you.

During our assessment we will ask you about your medical history and your family's history. If your ulcers are painful at dressing changes please take some painkillers before your appointment. Please bring a list of any medication you are currently taking.

You should expect to be in the department for a period of up to two hours. If you are travelling by car allow time for parking; the hospital operates a pay and display parking system.

It would be helpful to us if you would ask your nurse who has been looking after your legs to write a brief letter telling us which dressings she has been using and their effectiveness, adverse effects and the dates of any recent Doppler ABPI readings she may have performed.

#### **How can I help reduce healthcare associated infections?**

Infection control is important to the well-being of our patients and for that reason we have infection control procedures in place. Keeping your hands clean is an effective way of preventing the spread of infections. We ask that you, and anyone visiting you, use the hand sanitiser available at the main entrance of the hospital and at the entrance to every clinical area before coming in to and after leaving the clinical area or hospital. In some situations hands may need to be washed at the sink using soap and water rather than using the hand sanitiser. Staff will let you know if this is the case.

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If you require a translation of this leaflet please call 01494 734604.