

PREDICTING HARD-TO-HEAL WOUNDS

A NEW MANAGEMENT TOOL

INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Diagnosed venous leg ulcer

Has the wound a high proportion of necrotic tissue or slough?
Does the wound appear clinically infected or have high exudation levels?^a

Yes

Standard compression therapy with appropriate treatment; review progress

Does the wound appear generally clean and non-infected?

Yes

Does the further assessment indicate probable poor healing potential? E.g.
◆ large ulcer > 10cm² or
◆ long ulcer duration > 6 months^a or
◆ history of delayed ulcer healing

FURTHER ASSESSMENT IF MULTIPLE RISK FACTORS

ACTIVE TREATMENT

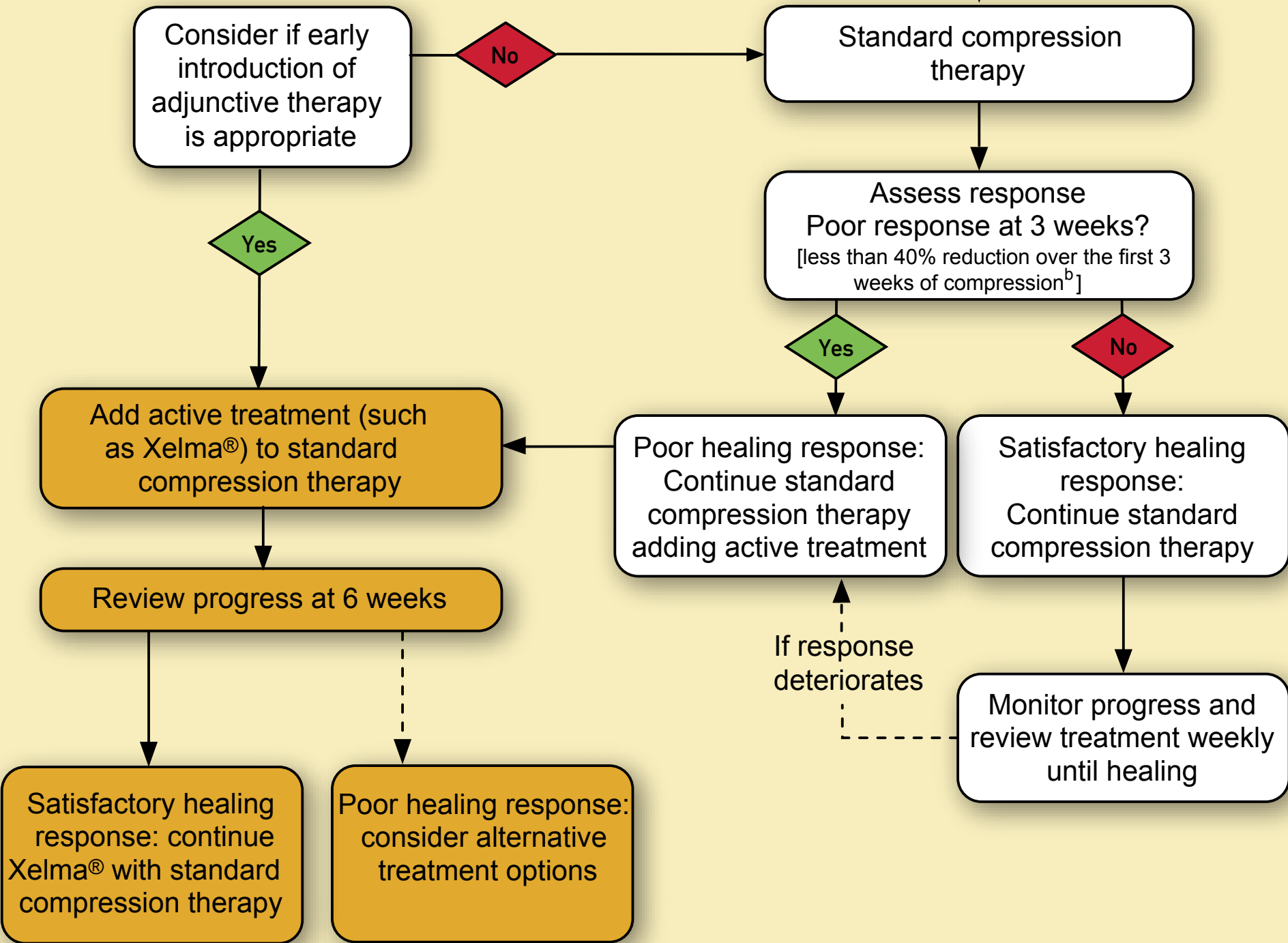
STANDARD TREATMENT

Yes

No

No

No



a. EMWA. Position document: wound bed preparation in practice. MEP Ltd; London, 2004.
 b. Phillips TJ *et al.* J Am Acad Dermatol 2000; 43: 627-30.

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