

# WOUND, OSTOMY AND CONTINENCE MANAGEMENT

*Visiting Nurse strives to provide the best quality care possible by combining highly skilled clinicians with the most current techniques and products available.*

## The Clinicians Make the Difference

Visiting Nurse recognizes the critical importance of having the highest quality clinicians available. Under the consultative supervision of WOC Nurses, Visiting Nurse staff clinicians receive advanced education and consultative support in managing the care of the complex wound, ostomy and continence patients. With expert assessment and advanced ongoing clinical care the clinicians will make the difference in the clinical outcome of the patient.

## Benefits

- Expert assessment, education and care will result in fewer complications and re-hospitalizations for the patient. Overall better outcomes!
- The patient (and family) is cared for in the environment they prefer and at a significant cost savings over institutionalized care.
- All members of the healthcare team (physician, hospital clinicians, home care clinicians, patient and family) will participate in achieving improved clinical outcomes.

## Advanced Services Provided

### DIABETIC FOOT ASSESSMENT

- Sensory Assessment for pressure, touch, vibration
- Motor assessment to observe for joint rigidity, gait disturbance
- Recommendations for Offloading of Pressure and foot Stress which may include home-based exercise program under the direction of Rehab clinicians
- Patient Instruction/Education for Care/Management of the Diabetic Foot

### WOUND MANAGEMENT & VENOUS/ARTERIAL ULCERS

- Draining Wound/Fistula Management
  - Recommendations to contain effluent/perifistular skin protection
  - Recommendations for odor control/patient comfort
- Acute Wound Management – Assess and provide optimal therapy for each wound – Decreased healing time
- Chronic Wound Management
  - Comprehensive wound management
  - Use of silver nitrate for cauterization of closed wound edges and hypertrophic granulation
  - Conservative sharp debridement of necrotic tissue
- Venous/Arterial Ulcers
  - Assess patient for LEAD utilizing noninvasive Doppler for Ankle/Brachial Index/conduct lower extremity examination
  - Recommendation for Compression Therapy if indicated
  - Recommendation for overall management goals which may include a home-based exercise program under the direction of Rehab clinicians
  - Patient education to maximize management

### INCONTINENCE MANAGEMENT

- Assessment of causative/contributing factors and type/patterns of incontinence /dysfunction.
- Recommendations for correction of incontinence: e.g. bowel and bladder training programs; scheduled voiding; dietary and fluid recommendations; pelvic muscle exercises; clean intermittent catheterizations.

### OSTOMY CARE

- In home postoperative management to include selection of appropriate pouching system and instruction in self-care.

For more information about how Visiting Nurse | Hospice Atlanta can help you and your patients, please contact us.

