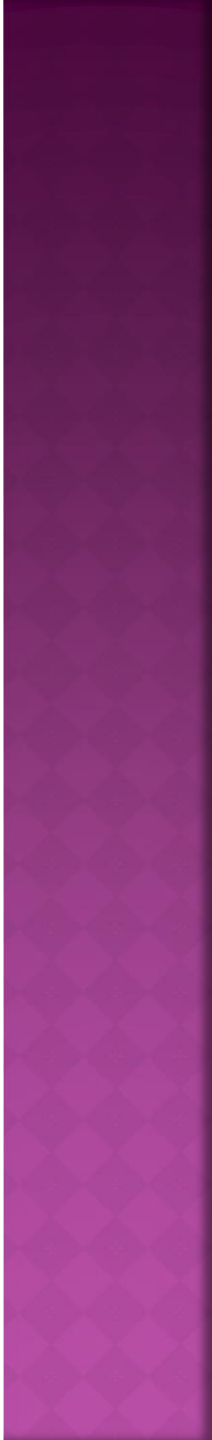


# LEG ULCER OUTREACH CLINIC ST GEORGE'S CRYPT LEEDS



Julie Thackray & Kate Humphries  
Vascular CNS's



# OUTREACH CLINIC

- ◉ Set up March 2018
- ◉ Drop in clinic - accessed by homeless/rough sleepers.
- ◉ Dressings provided by company reps who currently have contracts in hospital leg ulcer clinics.

# ST GEORGE'S CRYPT

A Charity in the City of Leeds, working with the homeless, the vulnerable and those suffering from addiction.

72 bed spaces, 365 days a year.

Immediate practical support in terms of getting fed, cleaned up and clothed.

# THE COST TO THE NHS

- ⦿ Annual cost of managing wounds in the NHS is £5.3 billion (£5b on managing obesity).
- ⦿ The most commonly treated wounds are leg ulcers.
- ⦿ VLUs are the most common type of leg ulcer.
- ⦿ 1.5% of the adult population have one.

# VENOUS LEG ULCERS/IVDU

- History of IV drug abuse resulting in chronic venous insufficiency.
- Long-term can result in painful lower limb ulceration.
- VLUs have a significant impact on patients' quality of life
- Considerable financial impact on healthcare providers and a wider social and economic impact.

**Around 88% of IV drug users  
have signs of vascular  
damage to their legs.  
55% of these have signs of  
severe venous disease.**

# HOW BAD IS IT IN LEEDS?

- ⦿ Six people have lost their lives on the streets of Leeds in the last 18 months.
- ⦿ There is an estimated 200 known drug users on the streets of Leeds.
- ⦿ Recent trends suggest the number of users is increasing while the average age is falling.



# WHY ARE THESE PATIENTS AT RISK?

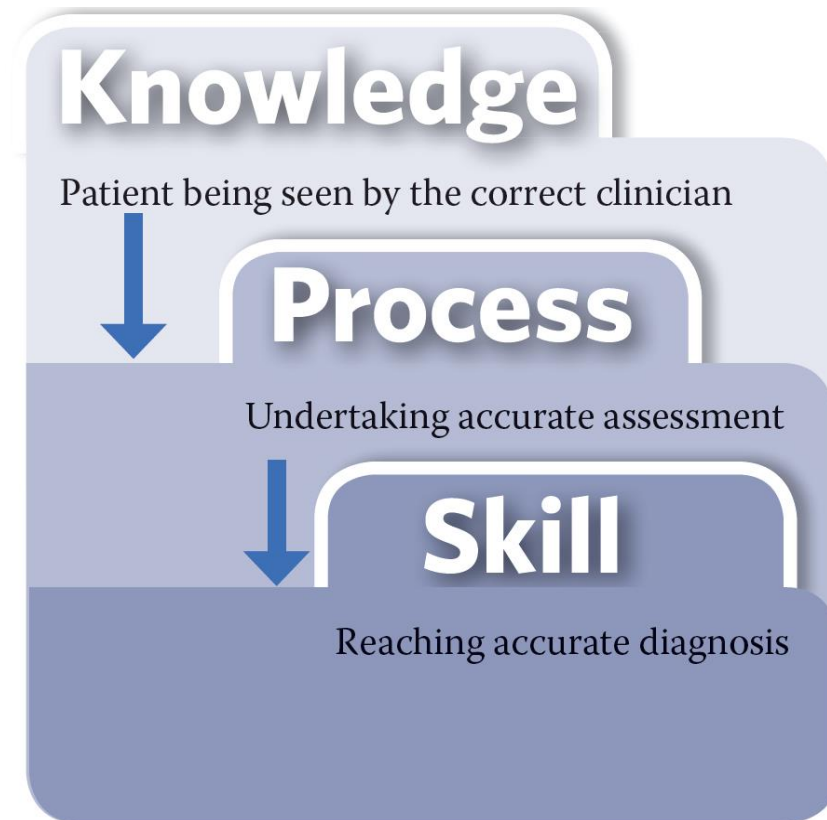
- ⦿ Homeless/rough sleeper
- ⦿ No access to treatment
- ⦿ Poor nutrition
- ⦿ Risk of infection
- ⦿ IVDU (current/previous)



**Imagine being here with a VLU and without access to treatment . . . .**

# WHY DO WE NEED THIS?

- ⦿ Frequent acute presentations.
- ⦿ Recurrent Infection - Hospital Admissions.
- ⦿ Limited engagement with primary and secondary services.



Patients across the city should have access to specialist treatment to prevent deterioration, aid healing and prevent hospital admission. All patients that are seen at The Crypt will have a full vascular assessment and treatment plan.

# HOW DID WE DO THIS?

- ✓ Contacted The Crypt
- ✓ Carried out an audit in the ED
- ✓ Pulled strings with dressings companies.
- ✓ Discussed our plan for commencing a clinic at The Crypt with clinical leads, business managers and matrons.
- ✓ Agreed to volunteer our time and expertise.

How did we get the patients?...



The Leeds  
Teaching Hospitals  
NHS Trust



# Leg Ulcer Outreach Clinic

**Every Thursday 1pm - 3:30pm**

**at St Georges Crypt Great, George St,  
Leeds LS1 3BR**

## **Drop in!**

If you have a wound of the lower leg which requires dressing, please stay after lunch to have this dressed with the Vascular Nurse Specialist.

**You will see Julie Thackray, Kate Humphries  
or Leanne Atkin**

# OUTCOME

- ◉ Since 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 seen 2-4 patients per session. 52 New patients in total (of last week).
- ◉ Feedback from both staff and patients has been so positive and emotional.
- ◉ We set up a project which enables collaborative working- extremely positive in the current climate.
- ◉ Providing effective wound care can have a profound effect on patients' lives.

My name is Robbie. I've had bad leg ulcers for ages. I am in a wheelchair. It's great how Jules and Katie treat people with no judgement whatsoever no matter what you are like.

It's a better atmosphere here (at the Crypt) as I am seen not in a room with lots of people being judged- I've kept appointments here and my legs are much better - I didn't think they would be able to do anything but nothing is too much trouble - I've got hope. I have been out of my chair and using a walking frame - something I didn't think I would do...

I think being treated with kindness has made a massive difference to how I feel about myself.

It's so much more than just getting my legs dressed and I am grateful for how they give up their time to help people like me





St George's Crypt @Cry... · 15/11/2018 ✓

Working in partnership to achieve the best health and wellbeing outcomes possible for the most vulnerable in our city @LeedsHospitals @NHSEngland @HomelessLink #Leeds #homelessness #NHSLongTermPlan



49 clients have used our leg ulcer clinic

Since April 2018



St George's Crypt, Leeds

15 March at 14:18 · 🌐



A big thank you to vascular nurse specialists Julie and Kate, who have been at the Crypt today looking after clients with lower leg wounds. The Leg Ulcer Outreach Clinic is now a regular fixture at the Crypt, operating a drop-in service every Thursday from 1pm - 3:30pm.



# Recipients of the LTHT Hilda Knowles award 2018!



**Corporate Nursing** @LTHTCorpNurse · Jun 6

Well done, giving a whole new meaning to going the extra mile and providing the right service for the right people at the right place!! Joint winners of the Hilda Knowles award Julie Thackray and Kate Humphries, both Vascular Nurse Specialists #leadingforthefuture18

