

**CORK UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL: PLASTIC SURGERY REFERRAL GUIDELINES**

APPROPRIATE REFERRALS	INAPPROPRIATE REFERRALS
<b>FACIAL TRAUMA</b>	<b>FACIAL TRAUMA</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complex wounds with skin loss</li> <li>• Possible involvement of facial nerve/parotid duct</li> <li>• Significant wounds involving the lip vermilion</li> <li>• Isolated fracture nasal bones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple skin wounds not involving lip vermilion - <b>EM</b></li> <li>• Eyelid injury +/- globe or tear duct injury – <b>Ophthalmology</b></li> <li>• Isolated scalp wounds not involving tissue loss – <b>EM</b></li> <li>• Fractured facial bones (exc. Isolated nasal bones) –<b>MaxFax</b></li> <li>• Intra-oral trauma – <b>MaxFax</b></li> </ul>
<b>UPPER LIMB TRAUMA</b>	<b>UPPER LIMB TRAUMA</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replantation/Revascularisation of finger/hand</li> <li>• Compartment syndrome <u>without</u> bony injury</li> <li>• High-pressure injection injury of the fingers/hand</li> <li>• Complex wound with skin loss</li> <li>• Isolated large haematoma <u>without</u> bony injury</li> <li>• Any upper limb nerve injury</li> <li>• Tendon injury of forearm or hand</li> <li>• Ligamentous injury of digits</li> <li>• Complex fingertip injuries e.g. bone exposed</li> <li>• Open fractures/dislocations of digits/metacarpals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple superficial skin wounds - <b>EM</b></li> <li>• Simple fingertip injuries – <b>EM</b></li> <li>• Isolated vascular injury - <b>Vascular</b></li> <li>• Closed fractures of the hand – <b>Ortho</b></li> <li>• Wrist, forearm &amp; arm dislocations/fractures - <b>Ortho</b></li> <li>• Compartment syndrome with bony injury - <b>Ortho</b></li> </ul>
	<b>NECK TRAUMA</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Penetrating neck wounds - <b>Gen Surg (+/- Vascular/ENT)</b></li> <li>• Simple superficial skin wounds – <b>EM</b></li> </ul>
<b>LOWER LIMB TRAUMA</b>	<b>LOWER LIMB TRAUMA</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Below knee amputation (excl. individual toes)</li> <li>• Complex wounds involving skin loss</li> <li>• Isolated large haematoma <u>without</u> bony injury</li> <li>• Possible associated <b>major</b> nerve injuries i.e. not digital nerve injuries (except big toe)</li> <li>• Paediatric lower limb wounds requiring GA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compartment syndrome - <b>Ortho</b></li> <li>• Isolated vascular injury – <b>Vascular</b></li> <li>• Wounds over anterior knee or achilles tendon - <b>Ortho</b></li> <li>• Non-complex wounds – <b>EM</b></li> <li>• Tendon injury - <b>Ortho</b></li> <li>• Toes: Nailbed or digital nerve injury (except big toe) – <b>EM</b></li> <li>• Amputated toes - <b>Ortho</b></li> </ul>
<b>CELLULITIS</b>	<b>CELLULITIS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face or Upper Limb</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cellulitis elsewhere: Infectious Diseases</li> </ul>
<b>ABSCCESS/NECROTISING FASCIITIS</b>	<b>ABSCCESS/NECROTISING FASCIITIS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abscess of Face, Upper Limb</li> <li>• Necrotising Fasciitis of Face, Upper or Lower Limb</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abscess of Trunk/Perineum/Lower Limb: <b>Gen Surg</b></li> <li>• Abscess of Breast: <b>Breast Surgery</b></li> <li>• Abscess Intra-oral/dental: <b>Maxillofacial</b></li> <li>• Nec Fasc of Trunk and Perineum: <b>Gen Surg</b></li> <li>• Fournier's Gangrene: <b>Urology</b></li> </ul>
<b>FOREIGN BODIES</b>	<b>FOREIGN BODIES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face and upper limb (when <b>readily palpable</b>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Impalpable</u> foreign bodies - <b>EM</b></li> <li>• Palpable Foreign bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower Limb: <b>Ortho</b></li> <li>Neck/Trunk (excluding breast)/Perineum: <b>Gen Surg</b></li> <li>Breast: <b>Breast Surgery</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>BURN TRAUMA: separate Burn Protocol (<a href="http://www.emed.ie">EMed.ie</a>)</b>	

\*Infections: The Reconstructive Plastic Surgery Department is not a generalised debridement service. We provide a reconstruction service. We are happy to consult on complex wounds or to provide assistance with debridement where required.

Wound advice: CUH employs wound care nurse specialists to review inpatient wounds & will advise with the plastic surgery service.

Pressure sores:

Admit under medical team on call, who should then arrange review by the rehabilitation consultant, Dr McFarland +/- ID, Plastic Surgery, Ortho, Gen Surg, Urology, Neurology, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Dietetics, Social Work