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DECISION TREE FOR MULTIDISCIPLINARY CARE OF LEG ULCERS

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Aim: The French Hospital, Patient, Health law allows medical and paramedical professionals gathered in an office and medical center to complete projects testifying a coordinated and protocolled practice. Leg ulcer treatment is an example of this care. This decision tree is designed for the general practitioner-private duty nurse partnership.

Method: Synthetic analysis of recommendations from the Haute Autorité de Santé [French National Authority for Health] and good practice recommendations.

Results: The decision tree has 4 parts:

Part 1 «Initial medical consultation». The clinical examination practiced by the general practitioner is targeted on comorbidities and etiological research.

Part 2 «Initial nurse care». During a nurse consultation, which reveals their regulatory role, the nurse examines the wound and starts the follow-up file.

Part 3 «Second medical consultation». After receiving the results of supplementary exams and the nurse file; the etiological treatment is discussed.

Part 4 «Nurse care». During treatment sessions the wound examination is done by the nurse who inspects it using measurements, photos and descriptions. The “Leg ulcer follow-up” related file of the shared file is filled in by the nurse and given to the patient.

Conclusions: The multidisciplinary care of leg ulcers has improved greatly in the ambulatory sector since it displays a coordinated and protocolled care where each person says what they do, does what they say and documents what they did.