

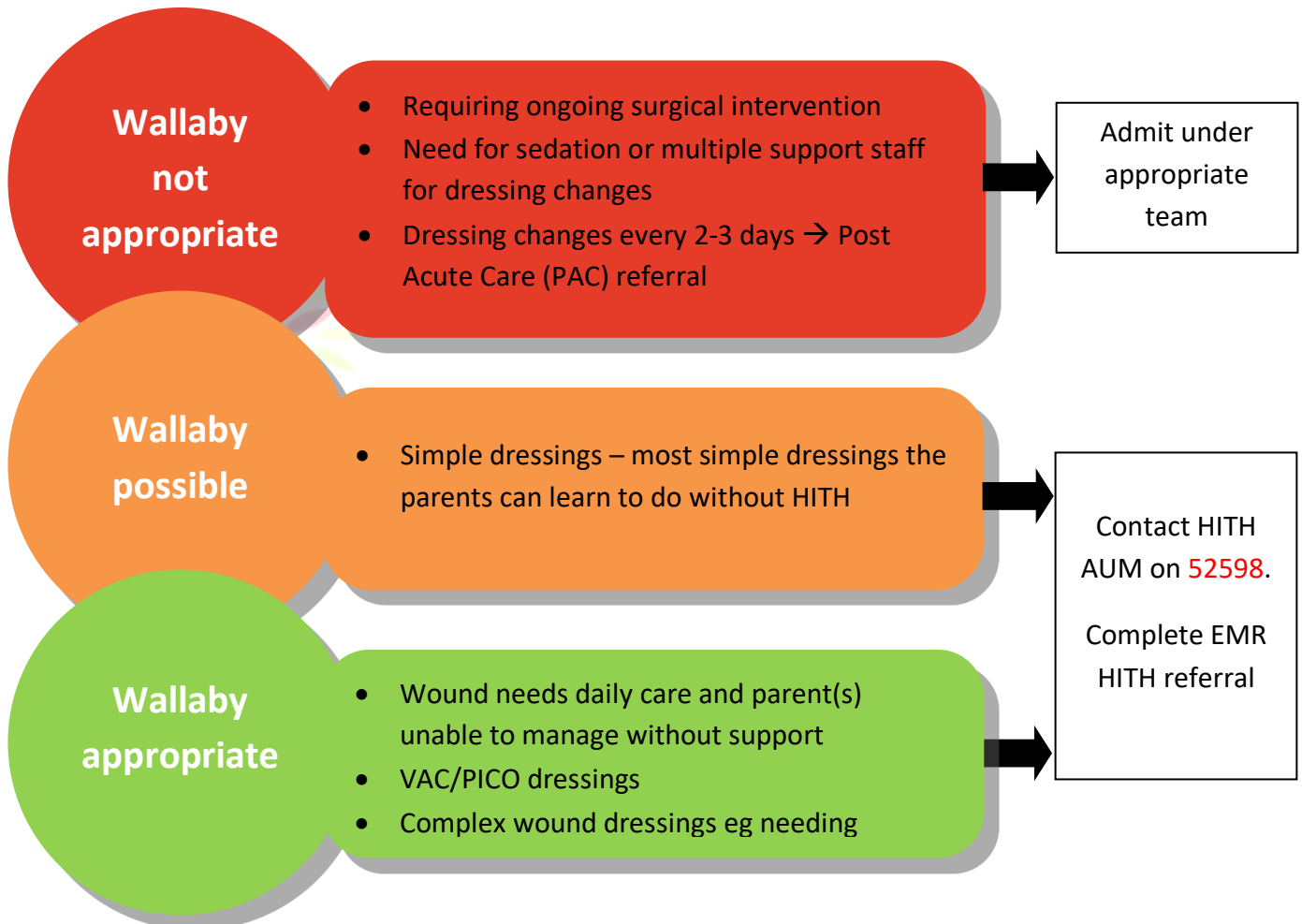


Wound care

Complex wounds that require daily interventions may be appropriate for in-home support on Wallaby Ward for nursing support and education. As with all Hospital-in-the-Home (HITH) admissions, this requires a safe home environment and consent. **Children can go straight from ED to HITH.**



HITH (Wallaby) admission criteria and protocol



Prior to family leaving hospital:

- HITH CNC/AUM will review patient & family
- Clear plan for wound care including dressing types, frequency, escalation pathway
- Follow-up plan documented and booked
- In EMR:
 - Referral to HITH & 'Transfer Order Reconciliation' completed
 - HITH bed request



HITH protocol – nursing and medical

Daily care requirements

VAC/PICO dressings: Wallaby can provide a support service

One or two in-person visits initially

Remainder of visits likely to be telehealth, or troubleshooting as family requires

Other wounds:

Nursing staff to take all wound supplies at first visit/as required

Once daily visits - some may be performed via telehealth

Daily/as required wound photos

Wound care as per admission plan

For wounds requiring long term dressings – Wallaby RNs to facilitate parental learning and independent dressing changes

HITH medical team responsibilities

Twice weekly case conference to review patient progress

Potential issues

Wound breakdown/worsening – escalate to home team

Malfunctioning VAC/PICO – if unable to troubleshoot, discuss with Wallaby AUM/escalate to home team as required

Readmission

If child requires further surgical intervention, home team will liaise with the bed manager

Discharge plan

Discharge once home team happy with wound progress/after pre-agreed timeframe with appropriately planned follow up (ie GP or clinic)

Parents to be aware of ongoing wound care and how to source supplies

Other options to consider for wound support:

GP: Some GP practices/GP nurses can provide dressing support and wound monitoring. Families should call and confirm

PAC: The post acute care program can provide up to 3x weekly dressings for max 4-6 weeks

No service on weekends or public holidays

Medical team/CNCs can refer to RCH PAC

Independent wound care: Patient/parents/carers to be educated in wound care prior to discharge from hospital