

# South West Yorkshire Joint Wound Management Formulary Group

## Wound Care Top Tips Bulletin Three

Larval Therapy, also known as 'Maggot Therapy' or 'Biosurgery' involves the use of larvae of the greenbottle fly, which are introduced into a wound to remove necrotic, sloughy and/or infected tissue. Larvae can also be used to maintain a clean wound after debridement if a particular wound is considered prone to resloughing.

### Ordering

#### **Action.**

Larval therapy needs to be appropriately prescribed.

Community orders will need to be raised on an FP10 prescription by a **doctor** or an **Independent prescriber**, following advice from a TVN or Vascular Nurse

#### **Information required includes:**

- Intended delivery date
- Community pack size required
- Full delivery address

#### **Rationale**

To ensure the right product is prescribed by the correct person and ordered in a timely manner

Using the BioBag Size Guide, select the appropriate sized dressing or combination of dressings to cover the entire treatment area, including margins.

The Larvae Calculator can be used to provide guidance on the number of larvae that should be used in each application. The calculator is freely available either as a hard copy from BioMonde or by downloading it from the Website: [www.biomonde.com](http://www.biomonde.com)

A retention net is required to apply free range Larvae to a wound. These nets are also available to order. Remember that the net dressing must always overlap the wound and, in the case of circumferential wounds, the net sleeves must extend beyond the length of the wound.

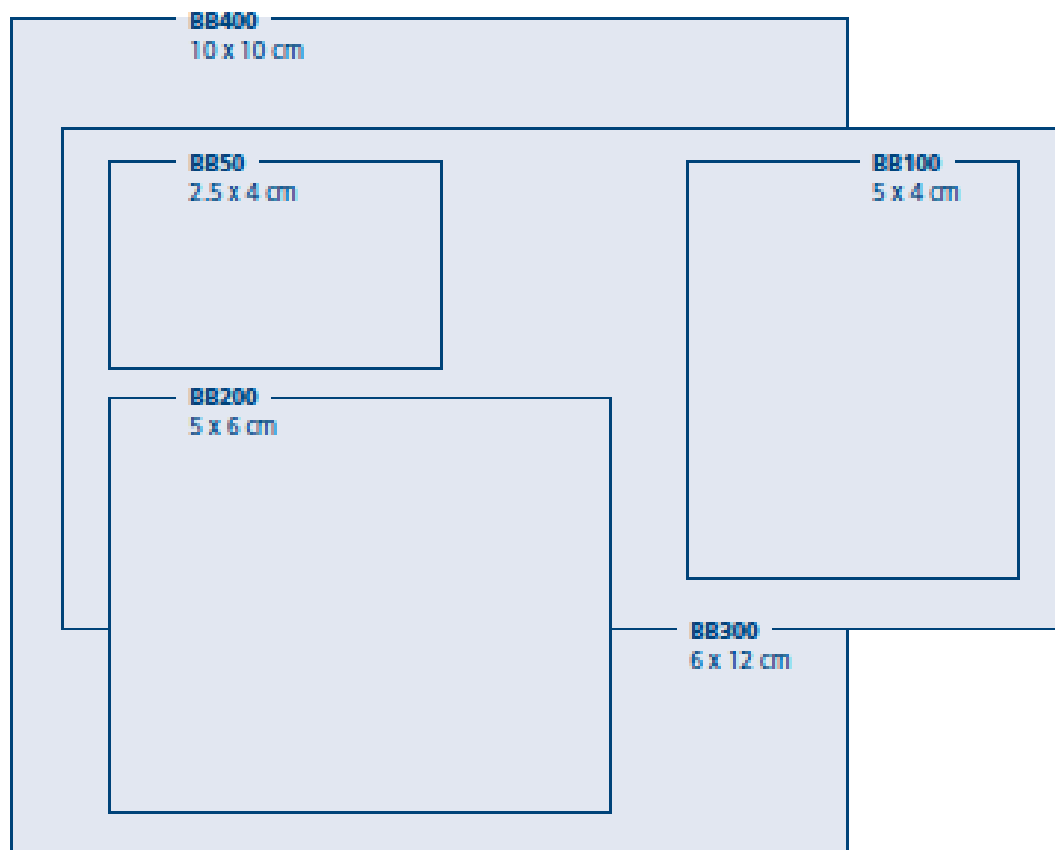


This bulletin has been produced by the South West Yorkshire Joint Wound Management Formulary Group on behalf of NHS Calderdale CCG, NHS North Kirklees CCG, NHS Greater Huddersfield CCG, NHS Wakefield CCG, Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust, Mid Yorks Hospital Trust, Locala Community Partnerships, Spectrum Community Health CIC and South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

The group consists of Tissue Viability Nurses, District and Hospital Nurses, Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians and Podiatrists

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## BioBag® Size Guide



## Loose Larvae Calculator

1. Measure the dimensions of the wound in centimetres
2. Pick the nearest size from the measurements on the left of the chart
3. Move sideways to the appropriate percentage of wound coverage
4. The recommended number of larvae required is indicated.

### Key

- 1 x Larvae100<sup>®</sup>
- 1 x Larvae200<sup>®</sup>
- 1 x Larvae100<sup>®</sup> + 1 x Larvae200<sup>®</sup>
- 2 x Larvae200<sup>®</sup>
- Use combination of Larvae100<sup>®</sup> + Larvae200<sup>®</sup> as required

Maximum wound size (cm)	Percentage of wound covered with slough/necrotic tissue				
	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
up to 2 x 2	100	100	100	100	100
5 x 5	100	100	100	100	200
5 x 10	100	100	200	200	300
10 x 10	100	200	300	400	500
10 x 15	200	300	500	600	800
15 x 15	300	500	700	900	1200
15 x 20	300	600	900	1200	1500
20 x 20	400	800	1200	1600	2000

Note that the calculator only measures the surface of the wound. If the wound has significant depth, more larvae may be required.