

# Introduction of a Faecal Management System for Complex Post-Operative Paediatric Patients

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## Background

Faecal contamination of wounds in complex post-operative paediatric patients carries significant risk of wound infection and consequent complications. Post scoliosis correction wound infections are estimated between 6-15%<sup>1</sup> with significant associated morbidity. This is exacerbated in patients with wounds near to the groin, and those with hyperlordotic posture leading to difficulties in positioning dressings without the risk of wound contamination. An effective faecal management system can keep wounds clear of stool and therefore minimise the risk of infection. The ConvaTec Flexiseal® Faecal Management System (FMS) is one such device, licensed only for patients >18 years.

## Aims

- To introduce a practicable faecal management system in suitable post-operative paediatric patients
- To assess national usage of such systems

## The Journey

### SURVEY

- No UK units reported using the ConvaTec Flexiseal® in March 2021
- ConvaTec® would not licence use in under 18s

### RISK ASSESSED

- Review of existing FMS and assess effectiveness
- MDT risk assessment
- Over-arching responsibility for off-licence use with spinal surgeons and PCC consultant team

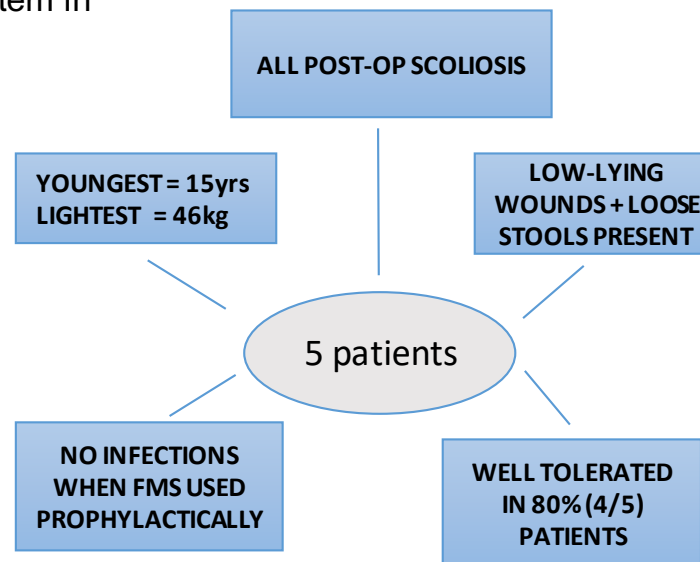
### GOVERNANCE

- Medical and nursing guideline developed
- Patients aged >16yrs OR >40kg weight
- Local governance ratification
- FMS-specific documentation developed
- Medical device competency statement
- Consented as medical procedure

### BESPOKE TRAINING PACKAGE

- Bespoke virtual training from clinical trainer
- Bedside training from PCC education team
- Support from AICU colleagues
- Authorised trainers to ensure >70% staff trained

## Results



The ConvaTec Flexiseal® FMS is a viable option in larger/older paediatric patients for management of uncontrolled stools with significant associated risk, including protecting wounds, severe burns, and patients needing minimal handling.