

# [CELLULITIS FLOWCHART FOR PATIENTS WITH LYMPHEDEMA] [VASCERN – PPL WG

27<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Area	<i>Patient-friendly resources, training and education</i>
Duration	1h
Contact (optional)	<a href="mailto:PEM-ePAGs@eurordis.org">PEM-ePAGs@eurordis.org</a>

## 1. OVERVIEW OF GOOD PRACTICE

**i** Cellulitis is a serious, and potentially frequent, complication for those with lymphedema. Many patients are not fully aware of the signs and symptoms, or how to reduce the risks. The Cellulitis Flowchart was developed as an easy-to-use overview with the main points (signs and symptoms, treatment and prevention) and the recommendations or best practice for each. It supplements and connects with other assets developed around the subject – a webinar, PoK and Do’s and Don’t’s

## 2. PATIENT ENGAGEMENT AND CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVEMENT OF CARE

**i** The flowchart is intended to be used in different ways – at diagnosis to understand the importance about cellulitis, at a suspected cellulitis incidence to use the best practice treatment options, to review for implementing preventative tactics, to share with health care professionals to raise awareness of the increased risk for lymphedema patients, to use while travelling as it is available in more languages and is a print friendly format (less color, black on white background). This format also makes it easier to disseminate to patients wanting a paper copy. Furthermore, it directs patients and HC professionals to more information in the other assets it is linked to via links and QR codes. All ePAGs were part of the process and other advocates were consulted.

### 3. SUCCESS FACTORS AND LESSONS LEARNED. SHARE YOUR TIPS!

**i** The output was a combined collaboration between the ePAGs and the clinicians in the working group with a range of nationalities. This ensured that the flowchart was suitable to fit local recommendations as well as from a language and cultural point of view. Our combined experience as patient advocates and our deep connections to our communities helped us in viewing this from many angles to address a real problem. Though it took a long time to finalise, each review and input ensured we covered all the bases. One major contributor was the dedicated session at the VASCERN days in Paris, it helps when all are in the same room to discuss. We had support from the ERN communication team for proof reading and creation of the final graphics and design to fit the ERN.