



Single limb cellulitis	
Not responding to oral antibiotics or systemically unwell	
EXCLUSION CRITERIA	
ABSOLUTE	RELATIVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Features of necrotizing fasciitis • Lymphoedema • Undrained collection • Diabetic foot ulcers with cellulitis (should be admitted under Diabetic Foot Unit – shared Endocrinology/Vascular bedcard) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facial / orbital cellulitis • IVDU • Diagnostic doubt e.g. DVT / foreign body (consider SSU admission to await U/S) • Suitable for oral therapy at home or therapy with HITH

KEY CONSIDERATIONS DURING SSU ADMISSION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IV antibiotics – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Flucloxacillin 1g IV Q6H OR ○ Cefazolin 2g IV Q8H (non-immediate penicillin hypersensitivity) OR ○ Clindamycin 600mg IV Q8H (immediate penicillin hypersensitivity) • Analgesia + antiemetic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paracetamol / codeine / ibuprofen ○ Ondansetron 4-6 mg TDS sublingual or IV/Metoclopramide 10 mg QID oral or IV • Limb rest + elevation • Treat predisposing conditions e.g. tinea pedis • Swab if ooze present • Blood cultures especially if vital signs abnormal <p>Red flags: diabetes + ulcers, immunosuppression, prev. MRSA, IVDU</p>

REFERRAL CRITERIA (Med/Plastics)	DISCHARGE CRITERIA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systemic symptoms or haemodynamic instability • Rapidly progressive cellulitis • ANY concern for necrotizing fasciitis needs Plastics consult immediately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systemically well • Tolerating oral analgesia • Mobility safe + able to immobilise limb • Social supports adequate

DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up plan; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mark cellulitis boundaries for LMO / HITH follow up • Prescription for oral antibiotics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Flucloxacillin 500 mg QID for 7 days ○ <u>or</u> Cephalexin 500 mg QID for 7 days (for penicillin hypersensitivity) ○ <u>or</u> Clindamycin 450 mg TDS for 10 days • Medical certificate • Re-attendance advice