

# The Adult Open LOWER Limb Fracture Pathway

Think  
TXA

For catastrophic injuries (unmanageable airway, breathing or catastrophic haemorrhage): Go to 'PIT STOP' pathway.

This pathway is for open lower limb fractures only, please refer to local guidelines for upper limbs.

Patient with suspected major trauma injuries including an open lower limb fracture

All patients to be assessed by Trauma Team Leader (TTL) & must be seen by local Orthopedic Registrar or Consultant

- Initial management at primary receiving site as per BOA/BAPRAS guidance
  - All reductions, splinting, dressings, analgesia, and antibiotic cover
- Take photos, x-rays (for upload to PACS) and medical microbiology swabs

Open lower limb associated with polytrauma

two or more organ systems including midshaft femur #

When accepted for transfer to Preston MTC, and after initial management, transfer via NWAS within appropriate time frame using: Complex Incident Hub for transfer:

**01772 867604 or 01772 867607**

Isolated open lower limb fracture

Suspected Gustilo-Anderson grade IIIa and above

TU Orthopaedics must discuss directly with MTC Orthopaedics on-call referral via switch on – 01772 716565  
The MTC Orthopaedics teams will liaise with Orthoplastics.

When accepted transfer to Preston MTC after initial management via NWAS within appropriate time frame: Contact Complex Incident Hub for transfer.

**01772 867604 or 01772 867607**

Gustilo-Anderson grade I & II

Manage locally as per BOA/BAPRAS guidance. Liaison with Orthoplastic team post-surgery if necessary