

# Medilink Case Study

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## RIF Project Telewound Management

**Chronic wounds** are often poorly diagnosed and mismanaged. In response to this, the Telewound Management project - operated under the Regional Innovation Fund (RIF) - aims to improve the diagnosis of woundcare in the region with the use of pioneering mobile phone technology to allow appropriate, timely and cost effective wound care to all patients when and wherever it is needed.

The technology is used by a District Nurse who uses the device to take an image of the affected area and then records the details using an electronic pen on a specifically designed wound assessment form. The form and photo are then sent together to a central secure server, which is then assessed by a specialist Tissue Viability Nurse (TVN) who will decide if a further referral is required.

### Benefits

The main aim of the Telewound Management project is to free up clinical time to allow specialist clinicians to diagnose wounds remotely, removing inappropriate and costly referrals to hospital and providing rapid support to patient and carers.

The software will allow a more responsive referral and treatment advice service, resulting in improved patient outcomes and cutting costs by removing expensive steps in the patient pathway and allowing an improved patient experience by being treated in their own home.



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Yorkshire & Humber



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# Telewound Management

## Innovation

The software allows trends in specific factors to be captured and visualised and an alert system has been set up to automatically refer wounds which are not properly healing to a TVN.

It has received funding through the Regional Innovation Fund (through NHS Yorkshire and Humber) which has five key priorities:

## Collaboration

The project would not have been possible without regional funding offered through the Regional Innovation Fund, and support through the Yorkshire Forward Network project - delivered by Medilink Yorkshire and Humber.

“In the Bradford and Airedale NHS Trust alone £9.89 million is spent each year on wound care. It is our aim to eradicate unnecessary costs to the NHS whilst improving the experience for patients affected by unpleasant treatment.”

Professor Peter Vowden,  
Wound Care Specialist and Chair of the RIF project

## About RIF

The Telewound Management project is a collaborative project made up of stakeholders from across the region, including industrial, clinical and academic backgrounds.

Developing innovative, self-improving systems

Delivery of the Healthy Ambitions pathway priorities

Accelerating the uptake of tele-health technology to improve the quality and efficiency of care for people with long term conditions

Improving provider quality and efficiency through innovation

Improving the quality and efficiency of health and healthcare through the commissioning of innovative, high quality, efficient services



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