



**Livestock Production**

**Animal Anatomy, Physiology and**

**Animal Health**

**Handout 7**

**Types of Wounds and General**

**Bacterial Infections**

# Types of wounds and general bacterial infections

There are many examples of bacterial infection when the body is not properly protected by an intact skin or lining of the internal organs. Here are a number of examples.

## Superficial skin wounds

A superficial wound is where the skin has been damaged by injury or parasites with the extent of the wound clearly visible.



## Abscesses

An abscess is where there was a very small skin wound that allowed bacteria to enter the tissue underneath. This small wound heals but the bacteria multiply in the tissue under the skin. This process is not visible apart from the swelling or lump that is formed.



## Deep wounds

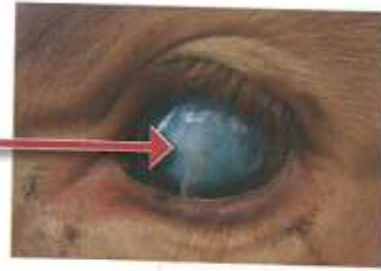
The skin is broken but the wound extends into the deeper layers of the body such as in or between the deep muscles, organs or organ cavities. The full extent of the injury and/or infection is not visible and it cannot be treated superficially.



**As soon as there is an injury, wound or bacterial infection the body will react to initiate the healing process. This causes inflammation and wound healing.**

## Eye infection

The normally clear parts of the eyeball and inside eyelid get infected and some outward signs of disease can be observed as the body starts to react.



## Hoof infection

If the skin between the hooves becomes soft owing to ongoing wet conditions, it can be easily injured by stones and become infected. Ticks can also cause a break in the skin, providing an entry point for bacteria and the start of infection.



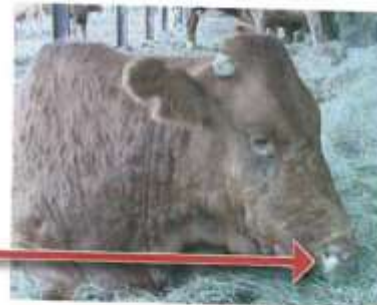
## Internal infection

The internal respiratory, digestive and reproductive tracts can be infected by bacteria if the lining is damaged. Specific signs of disease can be observed if the Daily Observation Card is used effectively.



## Secondary infections

Specific viral diseases, such as lumpy skin disease and bluetongue, cause lesions in the skin or lining, providing an entry point for bacteria resulting in a secondary bacterial infection which can lead to pneumonia, for example.



**All general bacterial infections have one thing in common. If observed early, they can be treated effectively with an antibiotic and correct actions.**

Certain bacterial infections cause specific diseases such as black quarter and pulpy kidney. These diseases are not considered general infections and are discussed in separate training modules.

