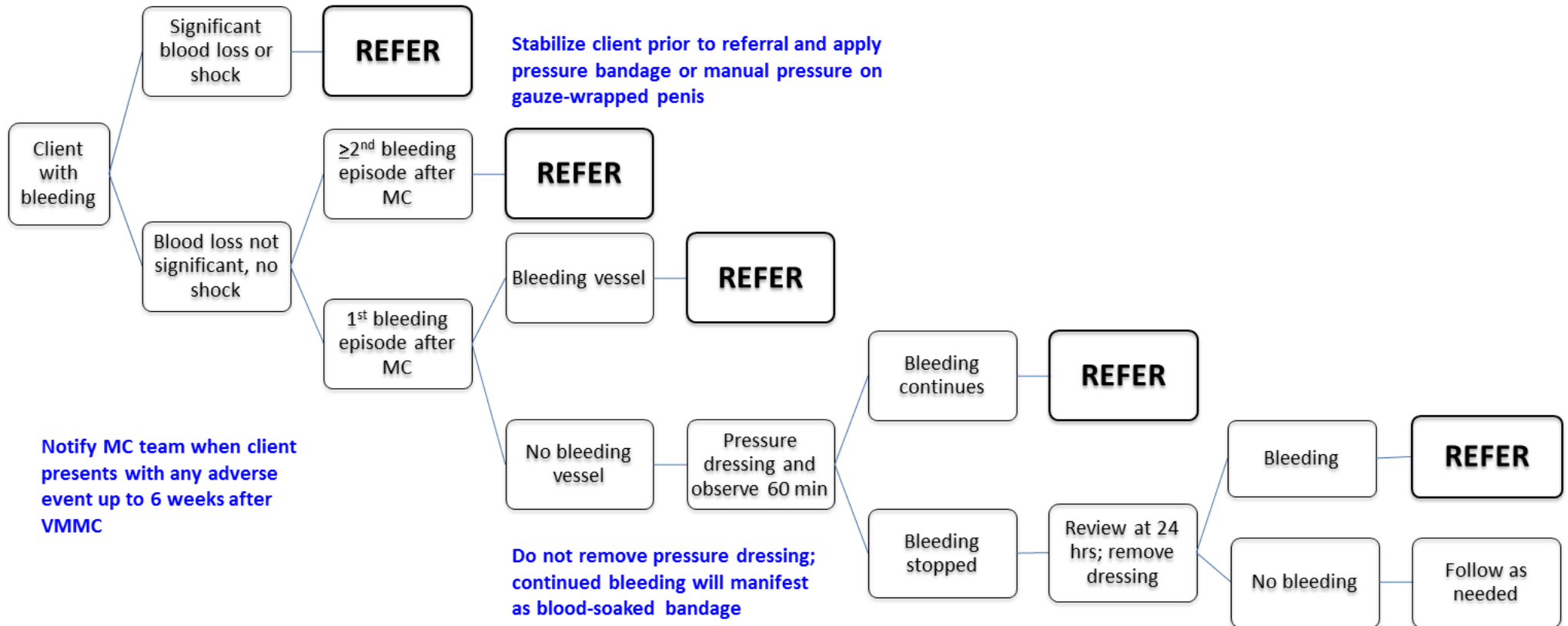


## Appendix 7: Algorithm for Management of Bleeding After MC, by Non-MC Providers

### Management of Bleeding After MC, Community Health Centres



**Significant blood loss** can be estimated by the number of bandages used. A rough estimate of  $\geq 3$  soaked 10 cm x 10 cm gauze bandages would be considered significant blood loss – not enough to cause shock, but enough to indicate the wound is bleeding abnormally. **Shock** is when there is insufficient blood being delivered to the vital organs. This can manifest in multiple ways. Clinically, shock may be indicated in a VMMC client with significant blood loss if they are confused or very sleepy, breathing very fast ( $\geq 22$ /minute), have low systolic blood pressure ( $\leq 100$  mmHg), or rapid heart rate ( $\geq 100$ /minute)

**In ALL instances of post-operative bleeding:**

- **Each time a client presents with bleeding, check vital signs; if there is any indication of haemodynamic compromise, stabilize as possible and urgently refer.**
- **Obtain history from client/guardians about when bleeding started and estimated blood loss.**
- **Ask client/guardians about trauma or other events that may have led to bleeding.**
- **Note if bleeding appears to be from a discreet area or vessel or from a large area of the surgical wound-diffuse bleeding more likely with a bleeding disorder.**
- **Refer if there is a bleeding vessel identified as the source of bleeding. If staff with adequate surgical training and skill are available at the facility, may be managed onsite.**
- **Question client/guardian about a personal or family history of bleeding. (History may not have been obtained initially or client/guardian may have been reluctant to reveal history.)**
- **Contact VMMC team to report AE during the time that the client is in clinic.**
- **When considering follow-up of a client with a bleeding, there should be consideration of travel distance and conditions required for a return visit. Difficulties, such as the need to walk considerable distance to the clinic may necessitate admission to a health care facility.**