

## Society update



### The Leg Ulcer Forum

The Leg Ulcer Forum (LUF) provides a unique forum for nurses working within the field of leg ulcer management and wound care. The dedicated membership, i.e. healthcare professionals all working specifically with, or influencing the care of, patients with leg ulcers (whatever the aetiology), makes it one of the most influential patient-orientated organisations in the UK. Briefly, the aims of the LUF are to facilitate discussion, debate and reflective practice; disseminate new research, and identify and support areas of good practice; provide support to specialist nurses involved in both identifying the need for and establishing leg ulcer services; and encouraging continuous professional development through a variety of educational activities. Membership is open to professionals involved in the prevention and treatment of leg ulceration and costs only £15 per year, for which members receive at least eight dedicated mailings – including personal copies of the Leg Ulcer Forum Journal, exclusive educational publications, The Wound Care Supplement from the Nursing Times (produced in collaboration with the LUF) – and access to the Forum's website. You can contact the LUF Executive Committee through our administrator and 24-hour answering service. For further information visit [www.legulcerforum.org](http://www.legulcerforum.org).



### The Tissue Viability Nurses Association

The Tissue Viability Nurses Association (TVNA) was set up to provide tissue viability nurses with a way to share information, provide mutual support, and use our combined voices to influence positive outcomes for both our clients and our profession. We exist to raise public and government awareness of issues in wound care and the specific pivotal, and unique role that nurses play in this in the UK. By using the collective experiences of our membership, we can offer invaluable assistance to industry, government and patients. We wish to maintain a dynamic approach to our growing area of specialism and so actively encourage debate and involvement by the membership through our busy on-line discussion forum, 'talking viability' and the sharing of written documents, policies, protocols and procedures through our website. The TVNA is the only UK association within wound care that is exclusive to nurses. Full membership is reserved for registered nurses in post whose primary responsibility is the provision of tissue viability services or who have the lead responsibility for tissue viability issues within a trust or other care-giving organisation. Associate membership is open to any registered nurse with a specialist interest in tissue viability. To find more information about the association, visit [www.tvna.org](http://www.tvna.org).



### The Tissue Viability Society

Early May sees the Annual Conference hosted by the Tissue Viability Society (TVS) take place in Aberdeen (May 4th 2005). The TVS conference is the first major UK wound care event of the year and is always guaranteed to deliver a strong programme blending clinical practice and scientific advances. This year the TVS conference is held in partnership with the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (EPUAP) and demonstrates both organizations' desire to work with appropriate partners. The joint activity with EPUAP also covers the TVS's participation in a major European survey exploring the current barriers to the implementation of guidelines covering the role of nutrition in pressure ulcer prevention and management. The TVS would warmly welcome invitations to develop similar partnerships with other UK and European associations. Within the TVS, there are changes to report. Helen Orchard stands down as Chair of the Society during the Aberdeen conference, having completed her two year term of office. The Trustees and management of the Society would like to thank Helen for her commitment and enthusiasm over recent years. The next Chair of the TVS will be Deborah Thompson, Divisional Manager for Emergency Care Services, Weston Area Health Trust. For more information, please visit [www.tvns.org.uk](http://www.tvns.org.uk).



### Wound Care Society

The Wound Care Society (WCS) is a registered charity which has the mission 'to promote and further best practice in the prevention, treatment and management of wounds through the provision of educational resources'. The focus and the challenge is to provide educational resources in a variety of ways. The WCS has an excellent reputation for the publication of its educational booklets which are printed in a format that currently fits into an educational resource folder. The WCS will begin to explore how these educational booklets will be provided to members in the future, taking into consideration their views and the increasing move to e-based services and information. *Wound Care* continues to be published with MA Healthcare and has a strong emphasis on perspectives on clinical practice. WCS will be working in partnership with Wounds UK at the Manchester Conference on 29th June. This conference has been designed around the 'everyday practitioner' and will have a strong emphasis on clinical practice. We hope this will become an annual event and look forward to working with Wounds UK. WCS is working in partnership with 3M Healthcare on *Essential Skincare* for nursing homes, which will be launched in April in Worcestershire and in May in Northumberland. For further information, please visit our website at [www.woundcaresociety.org](http://www.woundcaresociety.org).