

Society update



The Tissue Viability Nurses Association

2006 is bringing new challenges to TVNs in the UK. Many trusts are facing financial problems and are seeking to reduce costs and so they are examining dressing budgets among other areas. Some TVNs have had their hours reduced or even had their post suspended. In these times of difficulty the TVNA would like to remind its members that the TVNA discussion forum on the website can act as a source of support and information. Post a message and someone, such as another TVN or a member of the committee, will always respond. Help is available — you just need to ask.

In addition the TVNA continues to respond to consultations posted by the Department of Health. The second consultation document regarding the use of appliances for continence, stoma and wound care is about to be released and the TVNA will be responding to this on behalf of its members. If you wish to respond as an individual as well, please do. You will find the TVNA's response on the news section of the website. If you wish to join the TVNA, subscription is £15 per year payable by direct debit. Forms are available on the website, www.tvna.org. Join us and make sure your voice is heard.



President: Prof.C.Mohtut

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 of health care 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. The aims of the LUF are to facilitate discussion, debate and reflective practice; disseminate new research; 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 8 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 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



The Tissue Viability Society

In April the Tissue Viability Society hosted its annual conference in Birmingham. 2006 marks the 25th anniversary of the TVS, and the conference programme reflected this milestone. The event opened with a presentation by Dr James Robertson, one of the early pioneers of the TVS and a past Chair of the society and Editor of the *Journal of Tissue Viability*. This session reminded delegates of the society's history while the rest of the programme looked at how it could move pressure ulceration higher up the professional, public and political agenda. One clear marker of the growing importance of the society was the attendance by the current Chairs of the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, the US National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel and the European Wound Management Association (EWMA). It was excellent to see partnerships between these groups emerge. In 2007 the TVS will be one of the organisations working with EWMA when it hosts its annual meeting in Glasgow (2–4 May 2007). Another marker of the development of the TVS was the submission and presentation of free papers from delegates located in Europe and the US. TVS now looks forward to the remainder of its anniversary year culminating in May 2007 with the EWMA conference. Visit www.tvs.org.uk for membership details.



Wound Care Society

The Wound Care Society is pleased to work in partnership with Wounds UK and will be celebrating National Wounds Day at the Wounds UK conference at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire on Thursday 22nd June. WCS' AGM will be held on 22nd June during the conference. WCS is also pleased to continue working with 3M on the Essential Skin Care/National Nursing Home initiative. The next events are on 8th June at The Village, Cardiff and on 12th October at Linton Lodge Hotel, Oxford. The WCS is pleased to work with the TVS and TVNA on a national 'pressure sore' public awareness campaign. As soon as details are available they will be added to the WCS website. The annual Worcestershire student tissue viability conference will take place on 12th July at University of Worcester. Members of the WCS may apply for a place via the WCS chair Jackie Stephen-Haynes on jackies_h@btinternet.com. The WCS membership fee includes quarterly copies of *Wound Care*, educational booklets, a resource folder (on joining), regular key information in many aspect of tissue viability, members-only website and reduced fees on previous editions of educational booklets. In the past year, four educational booklets have been produced. The Wound Care Society committee look forward to meeting with new and existing members and invite your comments and suggestions. Contact wound.care.society@talk21.com. tel: 01480 434401.