

Society update



The Tissue Viability Nurses Association

The Tissue Viability Nurses Association continues to provide the political voice of tissue viability nurses in the UK. Concerns have arisen in several areas: the reduction of TVN hours/redundancies, the financial problems of NHS trusts and the Department of Health's agenda for reduction of reimbursement. The TVNA continues to respond to these challenges on behalf of its members. Many TVNs feel that they are in a time of crisis and never before has the need for collective support been so apparent. The TVNA is your association, so please make use of it. The website has useful clinical and procedural information. TVNA members and non-members have access to news, events, case studies and articles and members have exclusive access to our central resource of reports and papers, reference lists and useful documents (available as downloadable PDFs). The members forum 'Talking Viability' allows TVNs to communicate with each other, to find information, exchange views, raise questions or just let off steam via email. If you have any questions or issues that would benefit from the collective attention of the TVNA committee, please contact them via the website (www.tvna.org). Membership of the TVNA is £15 per annum for a TVN, £10 per annum for an associate member, for example, a tissue viability link nurse.



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 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 LUF), and access to the forum's website. You can contact the LUF executive committee through its administrator and 24-hour answering service. For further information visit: www.legulcerforum.org



The Tissue Viability Society

The 25th anniversary year of the Tissue Viability Society is now gathering pace. After an excellently received conference in Birmingham in late April, plans have now solidified for a special one-off symposium and dinner to formally mark the 25th birthday of the society. This event will take place at the Royal College of Physicians in London on 26th October 2006 and booking details and the full programme can be found on the TVS website at www.tvs.org.uk. The programme for this event is now confirmed and includes key speakers on the topic of inflammation and tissue repair including Professor Greg Schultz from the USA and Professor Peter Vowden from the UK. As the year progresses each issue of the *Journal of Tissue Viability* contains papers from the first major publication on pressure ulcers — *Bedsore Biomechanics* first published in 1976 and now long out of print. This will help TVS members to compile a copy of the key articles of *Bedsore Biomechanics* and represents a significant 'rescue' of frequently cited papers that are very difficult to obtain. New members to the society will be able to obtain back issues of the special 25th anniversary issues to make sure they have a complete set of the reprints from *Bedsore Biomechanics*.



Wound Care Society

The Wound Care Society aims to 'promote and further best practice in the prevention, treatment and management of wounds through the provision of educational resources'. It is pleased to have worked in partnership with Wounds UK to celebrate National Wounds Day on 22nd June. It will also attend the Wounds UK Scottish and Irish Conferences (7th September 2006, Glasgow; 27th September 2006, Belfast). Its AGM will be held at the Wounds UK conference in Harrogate (11th–13th November) and the committee will be available to take questions on the WCS stand. The next event for the Essential Skin Care/National Nursing Home initiative with 3M is on the 12th October in Oxford. A specific resource pack has been developed and the initiative includes a one-day conference including topics such as anatomy, physiology and skin assessment; skin care and pressure ulcer prevention; and the management of wound exudates. Any proposals for holding a similar event or for more information, contact WCS via its website (www.woundcaresociety.org) or call Laura Brett on 01509 613467. The WCS is also working with the TVS and TVNA on a national 'pressure sore' public awareness campaign (www.your-turn.org.uk). WCS membership includes quarterly copies of *Wound Care*, educational booklets, a resource folder, regular key information, and a members-only website. WCS tel: 01480 434401; email: wound.care.