

Society update



The Tissue Viability Nurses Association

The Tissue Viability Nurses Association (TVNA) provides the political voice of TVNs in the UK. A meeting was held during the Wounds UK conference 2006 where TVNs from across the UK addressed some of the issues facing them due to the current changes to the NHS. TVNs have faced a reduction of hours, service, and in some instances, redundancy. This will undoubtedly lead to a reduction in the quality of care for patients. Nurses within all of the tissue viability-related associations need to present a united front to the government. We need to be able to prove our worth by producing robust audits of exactly what our service provides for patients. Without this we are vulnerable and may be seen as superfluous. One main issue is that while all TVNs produce pressure ulcer prevalence/incidence statistics for our trusts there is no consensus on how to produce these nationally. This must be rectified in order to demonstrate the impact that our increasingly elderly population has upon the demand for services. The TVNA is your association, so please use it! Its website has useful clinical and procedural information and allows you to contact TVNA committee members. The website also features the member's forum which allows TVNs to seek information, exchange views, raise questions or just let off steam. www.tvna.org



The Leg Ulcer Forum

The Leg Ulcer Forum (LUF) exists to advance education, and offer support to healthcare practitioners involved in the management of patients with leg ulcers and related conditions. The executive comprises specialist practitioners and educationalists who share a common bond in wishing to advance the care of patients through the dissemination of new research and evidence-based practice. Our Life President is Professor Christine Moffatt, CBE and Fellow of the Royal College of Nursing. The Forum is active on behalf of its members and is currently involved in Department of Health Deficit Committee responses, the debate on development of skills and competencies in an increasingly diverse workforce, as well as educational projects. Current LUF educational projects include the production of patient leaflets, professional educational guides and investigations into the management of patients with mixed aetiology ulcers. The AGM of the Leg Ulcer Forum is in March 2007, and our next major educational event is in July 2007. We are also one of the co-operating societies for the EWMA conference in May 2007 in Glasgow. Membership costs £15 per annum, which gives you a subscription to the annual LUF journal, a discount at LUF educational events and copies of the NT Wound Care supplements. In addition, you will have access to the resources on the website (www.legulcerforum.org), copies of all the educational material we produce, such as the patient leaflet series, and much more.



The Tissue Viability Society

The Tissue Viability Society was formed in 1981 to: 'disseminate information, promote research and increase awareness of all aspects of good clinical practice in wound prevention and management.' Its website provides general information to the public and supports its members through access to a wealth of educational resources and discussion groups. To keep all members abreast of current news a quarterly newsletter is produced — and members can access the current issue (and all back copies) on its website. Non-members can see the front page of the current issue only, but all visitors to the TVS site can sign up to receive an e-mailed summary of tissue viability news each month. There are several types of membership and the details of subscription rates can be accessed through the website. Members are entitled to discounts at the Society's conferences, receive the quarterly journal and can make full use of the society's services. Group membership is available for corporate bodies. To contact the TVS call 020 7240 1353; email: TVS@mcmlondon.co.uk or write to Tissue Viability Society, 1 Lancaster Place, London WC2E 7HR. Its website address is www.tvs.org.uk.



Wound Care Society

The Wound Care Society's remit is 'to promote and further best practice in the prevention, treatment and management of wounds through the provision of educational resources'. Jackie Stephen-Haynes will step down as chair in June 2007 and Louise Toner, Lead for Professional Development at University of Worcester, who is currently vice chair will become chair. Dr Richard White will continue as treasurer and Ellie Lindsay as secretary. The society is pleased to be working in partnership with Wounds UK, at the Wound, Ostomy and Continence conference at Leeds United Football Club on Wednesday 27th June 2007. During this conference it will hold its AGM. The WCS constitution, which has been reviewed, as well as its accounts will be available via the newly updated website — www.woundcaresociety.org — four weeks prior to the AGM. The committee will be available to take questions and will be on the WCS stand during the conference and, as always, welcomes new and existing members. The Leg Club is holding a conference day at Ebbw Vale on Friday 20th April 2007. Chairs for the day are Sue Bale and Vanessa Jones. Places can be booked via Ellie Lindsay ellie@legclub.org. The WCS will have a stand at this event.