

Society update



The Tissue Viability Nurses Association

The recent EWMA conference at Glasgow was a fine example in what can be achieved by working together; TVNA along with the TVS and Leg Ulcer Forum collaborated with EWMA, reviewing abstracts, chairing plenary sessions and participating in the study days. The conference was attended by over 1,500 clinicians, nurses, podiatrists and industrial partners. I was again reminded that we are still very fortunate when compared to some other countries. I met with clinicians from the middle east and eastern Europe who have no support in the way of a professional body. Collaboration is key in many aspects of our roles. During the strains of all recent upheavals within the NHS it is vital that we support each other. The TVNA remains committed to providing a supportive role to its members and keeping them informed of the latest political debates. TVNs will have heard of the alleged remarks made by Patricia Hewitt about whether specialist nurses were value for money. It is up to TVNs to prove that we are. This can only be achieved by auditing and to this end the TVNA is collaborating with other societies regarding a chronic wound audit, which it is hoped will demonstrate not only the extent and volume of chronic wounds in the UK, but also how the interventions of TVNs are what makes the difference.



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 was in March and our next major educational event is in July 2007. We were 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 subscriptions 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@mcmsslondon.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. The constitution and the latest financial accounts can be viewed on the website www.woundcaresociety.com and the trustees seek to approve these at the AGM on 27th June 2007 during the Wounds UK Summer conference in Leeds. See WCS website or www.woundsuk-com for details. The educational partnership continues with the LegClub which is holding a conference day on 20th September in Walsall. Places can be booked via ellie@legclub.org. The Essential Skin Care/National Nursing Home initiative with 3M will be running in 2007. Details of study days and venues are available on the website. The WCS membership fee has remained the same and includes quarterly copies of *Wound Care*, educational booklets, a resource folder, regular key information in many aspect of tissue viability, members only website, and reduced fees on previous editions of educational booklets four of which have been produced in the past year. Jackie Stephen-Haynes will step down as chair in June 2007 but will continue on the editorial board of *Wound Care* and Louise Toner, lead for professional development at University of Worcester, who is currently vice chair, will become chair. Richard White will continue as treasurer with Ellie Lindsay as secretary.