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Wounds UK

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ed@wounds-uk.com

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vi.guyan@wounds-uk.com

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lorraine.knowles@wounds-uk.com

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Wounds UK Offices
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Tel: 01224 637 371
email: www.wounds-uk.com

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Pauline Beldon is
Tissue Viability Nurse
Consultant, Epsom and
St Helier University
Hospitals NHS Trust
and Chair, TVNA

Welcome to Wound Essentials

**The practical journal for the nurse, healthcare
assistant, physiotherapist, occupational therapist
and junior pharmacist**

Welcome to the very first issue of *Wound Essentials*! The aim of this new journal is to provide the nurse, healthcare assistant, physiotherapist, occupational therapist and junior pharmacist with an interest in wound care and tissue viability with a practical learning resource.

All healthcare professionals are engaged to a lesser or greater degree in tissue viability. It is important that we all begin with sound principles, based as far as possible, on current evidence provided by clinical trials, systematic reviews, case reports and expert consensus. This journal seeks to outline best practice derived from the sources listed, in order that the standards to which we should aspire are clearly defined.

As knowledge in the field of wound care increases, it is becoming ever more complicated. All healthcare professionals need a basic understanding of wound healing and anatomy of the skin and deeper tissues as a foundation, onto which extra layers of knowledge can be applied until one is transformed from novice to knowledgeable clinician. It is hoped that *Wound Essentials* will provide those layers of knowledge to aid the healthcare professional on their journey to becoming an experienced practitioner.

The journal begins with an essential overview of skin physiology and the process of wound healing. It is then divided into five sections each covering a key area of wound care, namely leg ulcers, pressure ulcers, diabetic foot ulcers, surgical and trauma wounds and lymphoedema. Within each section there is a review article of current best practice guidelines, followed by step-by-step technical guides to everyday practical wound care, and case studies that show best practice being clinically applied to achieve successful outcomes. Finally, there is a product section containing a review of wound dressings and a directory to aid management decisions.

We hope that you and your colleagues find this journal informative and interesting. Since this is a new journal, it is vital to receive feedback from readers to ensure that we are providing the right information, in the right terms, without jargon – please contact us with any comments or suggestions for future issues. **WE**