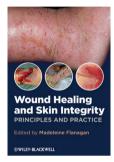
Wound Healing and Skin Integrity: Principles and Practice



Editor: Madeleine Flanagan ISBN: 9780470659779 Published: April 2013 Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell Cost: £32.99

CAROLINE DOWSETT Nurse Consultant, Tissue Viability, East London Foundation Trust, London his comprehensive wound care book offers a valuable resource to anyone involved in the prevention and management of wounds and skin integrity. It is a practical, well-researched text covering a wide range of issues within the speciality by leading international experts in the field.

Wound Healing and Skin Integrity: Principles and Practice acknowledges that wound care and skin integrity requires a multiprofessional approach that cuts across traditional service boundaries.

The contributing authors reflect the nature of the multidisciplinary team required to develop and promote advanced wound care for the needs of wound care patients today. It has been written from a broad international perspective and will, therefore, be of value to the global wound care community.

The book is divided into three distinct sections. Section one covers the principles of best practice for all wound types, including a review of evidence-based practice and how to improve outcomes through the decisions we make as practitioners. It also covers the physiology of skin integrity and wound healing and the general principles of wound management, including an overview of wound dressing and therapy choices, wound infection and the psychological impact of a wound on the patient.

Section two focuses on challenging wounds, their prevention and management, and includes discussion of the specific needs of pressure ulcers, diabetic foot disease, chronic ulcers of the lower limb, lymphoedema, malignant wounds, skin integrity, dermatology, and surgical wounds.

An additional chapter on neglected wounds encourages the reader to expand their knowledge and skills on more unusual wound types, such as body piercings, bullous pemphigoid, calciphylaxis, fistulas, necrotising fasciitis, self-inflicted wounds, and skin tears. One of the key principles of this section is ensuring clinical management pathways are appropriate for the patient and the wound, so as to achieve the best outcome.

The third section discusses wounds within the context of the health economy and the application of best practice principles to reduce the human and economic costs of wounds. The final section leaves the reader with some insight into future directions for the speciality of wound care and skin integrity.

The book supports best practice decisionmaking when caring for patients with wounds and skin integrity issues. There is a useful resource section at the end of each chapter that points the reader to best practice statements and other useful documents and websites. It has the additional value of practice points running through the text that are useful for both advanced and novice practitioners.

Wound Healing and Skin Integrity: Principles and Practice is an easy-to-read text with useful illustrations and tables that brings life to the text and keeps the reader interested. It will make a welcome addition to the library of the multidisciplinary wound care team. I would recommend it to anyone who wants to improve or validate their knowledge and skills in wound healing and skin integrity.