

Society update



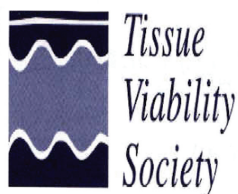
The Leg Ulcer Forum

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, i.e. healthcare 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. Briefly, the aims of the LUF are to facilitate discussion, debate and reflective practice; disseminate new research, and 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 the LUF) — and access to the Forum's website. You can contact the LUF Executive Committee through our administrator and 24-hour answering service. For further information visit: www.legulcerforum.org.



The Tissue Viability Nurses Association

The election may be over but the work is just beginning! The TVNA has been busy over the past few months engaging in dialogue both with individual MP's and with the various bodies within the Government. It is vital that we find champions that can help us along the way in providing a voice for our speciality among the decision-makers in Whitehall. Having written to all prospective MP's before the election, the TVNA has been using the intervening months to engage with a number who have shown interest in moving our cause forward. The issues around wound management and the pivotal role that the nursing profession plays in the speciality have gone relatively unnoticed until now. It is our intention that this situation will not be allowed to continue. At Government level, the TVNA has been actively involved with negotiations and standard setting with the DoH's Commercial Directorate through our influence with PaSA. As you will know by now, wave two of this rationalisation program is now well underway. The TVNA has been in consultation since early May ensuring that the voice of evidence-based care and clinical choice has been heard by those making the decisions that will ultimately affect all patients in England. The TVNA continues to ensure that the voice of specialist nursing is not only heard but listened to.



The Tissue Viability Society

The Tissue Viability Society aims to 'disseminate information, promote research and increase awareness of all aspects of good clinical practice in wound prevention and management'. It is with this in mind that the Tissue Viability Society has now issued the first announcement and call for abstracts for the 2006 Annual Conference to be held at the National Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham on the 26th and 27th of April 2006. The theme of the conference will be 'Applying the Pressure – Raising the Profile of Tissue Viability'. This conference marks the 25th Anniversary of the Tissue Viability Society (probably the world's oldest society dedicated to all tissue viability issues) and we hope to be able to welcome old and new friends of the Society to this event to mark our first 25 years. The call for submissions seeks oral and poster abstracts on a wide range of topics including prevention, risk management, and clinical governance, along with any topic related to the main theme of the conference. A 250 word abstract should be submitted by the 30th November 2005 to the Tissue Viability Society at tvns@dial.pipex.com. Further details of requirements for abstracts can be obtained at www.tvs.org.uk.



Wound Care Society

Wounds UK in partnership with the Wound Care Society held a summer conference on Wednesday 29th June at Old Trafford, Manchester. Over 300 delegates attended what was evaluated as a fantastic event. The Wound Care Society have enjoyed working with Wounds UK and look forward to the summer event on June 9th 2006 at Stonleigh Park, Warks. Thank you to all our members who attended this event; it was great to see you. The Wound Care Society AGM was held on Wednesday 29th June during the conference and the committee were extremely busy on the WCS stand. Louise Gibson, previous Chair of the WCS left after the 2005 AGM, and all the committee wish her well. The Wound Care Society has successfully launched an essential skin care educational initiative with 3M for nursing homes in Worcestershire and Northumberland. Both days were well attended with excellent evaluations. Jackie Stephen-Haynes presented anatomy, physiology and skin assessment, Val Henderson/ Claire Stephens discussed skin care and pressure ulcer prevention, Ellie Lindsay detailed common skin ailments and their care, and Richard White provided an overview of the management of wound exudate. More about this event can be seen on p84 of this issue. The WCS hopes to arrange further dates for 2006. For further details of the Wound Care Society, please visit www.woundcaresociety.org