

Society update



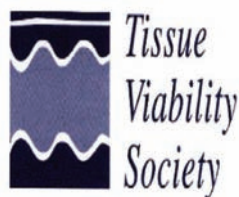
The Leg Ulcer Forum

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

Two of the keystones of the TVNA have been peer support by providing a forum for nurse specialists to share views, ideas and experience, and our political voice. Two new guidelines have been developed and are now accessible to members via our website. The sharp debridement guidelines and competency statements have been developed to assist clinicians in this area of clinical practice. Many pieces of research and guides to good practice have highlighted the need for debridement as a method of managing necrotic burden. However, clinicians can find themselves having to expand their scope of practice to facilitate this. Nurses and employers need to be assured that clinical skills are developed to safely match this need. The management of cellulitis guidelines provide a framework to enable clinicians to develop local protocols for the management of this all-to-common condition. In the political arena, Dai Havard MP hosted a reception at the Houses of Parliament on behalf of the association in October. The aim of this meeting was to highlight the development of wound care and the key role that tissue viability nurses have had in making the UK the centre of excellence in wound care. However, the meeting was also used to highlight to MPs and the Government that there are significant areas of improvement yet to be made. www.tvna.org



The Tissue Viability Society

For twenty-four years, the TVS has been based in Salisbury. For many members, this has been a comforting reassurance that although times may change we have a permanent home which will continue to provide a strong foundation for the Society. This is all about to change as the TVS enters its 25th year as a national organization, for the Salisbury office is now closed. There will be some who will see this development as 'evidence' that the TVS is about to disappear. Nothing could be further from the truth. What has happened over the past few years is a clear Council-led strategy to reduce our internal costs so that the society can devote as much of its income to providing services for its members, health professionals and the general public. So with the end of an era with the closure of the TVS Office in Salisbury, there comes the dawn of a vibrant future for the TVS with an efficient virtual administration and strong new initiatives to ensure maximum value is gained from membership of the oldest society dedicated to tissue viability and wound care. Until advised of new contact details, members can continue to contact the TVS on 01722 429057 or via e-mail: tvsv@dial.pipex.com



Wound Care Society

The Wound Care Society is a registered charity which has the mission to 'Promote and further best practice in the prevention, treatment and management of wounds through the provision of educational resources'. Educational booklets will continue to be produced this year as will the quarterly edition of Wound Care with MA Healthcare. The Wound Care Society will continue to work in partnership with Wounds UK for the Summer 2006 conference. The Wound Care Society initiative 'Essential skincare for Nursing Homes' in partnership with 3M Healthcare and Wounds UK will continue next year with confirmed dates on Thurs 16th Feb in Suffolk, Thurs 9th March in London, Thurs 16th March in Nottingham, Thursday 20th April in Birmingham, Thursday 4th May in Plymouth, Thurs 18th May in Bournemouth, Thursday 28th September in Edinburgh, and Thursday 12th October in Oxford. Following a successful launch in Worcester and Northumberland in Summer of 2005, this initiative will include attending a conference day as well as membership of WCS for one year. The Wound Care Society will also be attending Wounds UK Harrogate conference and will look forward to meeting with members. For further information about the Wound Care Society, please visit our website: www.woundcaresociety.org