



Newsletter 57  
October 2006

Find us on the web:  
[www.sawma.org.au](http://www.sawma.org.au)

# Education Meeting Wednesday 8 November 2006

*Gain without Pain  
'ouch-free' wound management*

*Speaker: Wendy White*

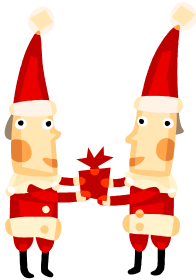
Trade display & supper 1845

**Education meeting commences 1930**

**All Welcome**

**Non members \$5.00 Members & students free**

*SAWMA is a multidisciplinary association and is  
non-partisan in its approach to wound products*



## **Celebrate Xmas with SAWMA in November**

*The Nov meeting will include  
Xmas raffle, wine and supper*

## **SAWMA Seminar 2007**

*Bacteria, Bioburden & Beyond  
Hilton Hotel Adelaide*

Friday 18 May – Saturday 19 May 2007

## **Education night venue: Enterprise House**

**136 Greenhill Road, Unley** (Undercover parking on site)  
30m west of Unley Road. Enter off Greenhill Road between Unley Road and Salisbury Street.

## President's report

This is the final newsletter for 2006. It is a good time to reflect on developments this year and look to the future for wound management in 2007.

### SAWMA

- SAWMA has continued to host a series of successful evening education seminars. This year we held our first evening seminar in conjunction with the South Australian Orthopaedic Nurses Association (SAON). The November education evening promises to be very worthwhile. Wendy White will present on managing pain and trauma during wound management interventions. Wendy has a wealth of experience and is a passionate clinician and presenter. SAWMA thanks all speakers and attendees for their contribution, enthusiasm and attendance. The SAWMA evening seminars have continued to inform practice, encourage debate and discussion and help lead contemporary wound management in South Australia. SAWMA will continue its evening seminars next year. New, interesting and different formats for these evenings are being developed.
- As you are probably aware, the SAWMA committee is in full swing planning for a major national seminar in May 2007 with the theme 'Bacteria, Bioburden and Beyond'. We hope all SAWMA members will consider attending what promises to be an exciting program.
- SAWMA continues to offer a grant of up to \$5000 to SAWMA members to help fund research. If you are interested in taking advantage of this, please refer to the web site for full details.

### Wound management initiatives

2006 has seen a number of major initiatives in wound management.

- In March 2006 AWMA held it's 6<sup>th</sup> national wound management conference in Canberra. There were many well respected national and international speakers who delivered an exciting and varied program of keynote sessions, concurrent sessions and workshops.
- In June, Smith & Nephew sponsored a meeting in Budapest, Hungary to discuss formation of a Wound Infection Institute (WII). The meeting, Chaired and supported by Professor Keith Harding brought together 135 delegates from 23 countries. The proposal to establish the Wound Infection Institute was supported. The WII has enormous potential by bringing together an international collaboration to work on better diagnosing, understanding and managing the problem of wound infection. I was privileged to attend this meeting as the South Australian representative.
- In August 2006 Smith & Nephew facilitated a national 'Silver Reflections' forum in Victoria. There were numerous well known speakers. The forum focused on issues related to bacteria in the wound environment and the role silver-containing dressings have in wound management. Several South Australians attended, including several SAWMA members.
- Throughout the year several organisations and institutions have offered wound management education programs to increase knowledge and skills and promote evidence-based contemporary wound management practice.

Wound management continues to gain recognition as a discrete specialty, requiring a specialised body of knowledge and skills. SAWMA encourages its members to take advantage of educational opportunities. Professional development is life-long. As we update our cars/clothes when they become old and outdated, so we need to update our wound management practice as well!

*Thank you to all SAWMA members for your continued support in 2006.*



With Kind Regards,  
Sue Templeton  
SAWMA Vice-President

# Wandering the web: World Wide Wounds

*Continuing our series on good quality web-based resources...*

## Where to find it

The World Wide Wounds web site is located at: [www.worldwidewounds.com](http://www.worldwidewounds.com)  
(Be careful to spell the URL correctly. There is also a site called [worldwidewound.com](http://worldwidewound.com) that has sponsored links. These two sites are different.)

**World Wide Wounds** is an Internet-only electronic wound management journal, edited by Suzie Calne and published by the Surgical Materials Testing Laboratory in England, in association with the Medical Education Partnership.

## What's good to download?

World Wide Wounds has numerous articles that are often written by well known and well respected authors. The topics vary and cover all aspects of wound management. The site includes the following subject headings: Acute wounds; Dressings and bandages; Diabetic feet; Infected wounds; Leg ulcers; Pressure ulcers; Maggot therapy; Veterinary and Miscellaneous.

## What's the latest on the site?

Title of paper	Overview
Modern exudate management	In this review the nature, composition, assessment and management of exudate is considered.
Four-layer bandaging: evidence base for treating venous leg ulcers	This is the third and final article in a series that reviewed four-layer bandaging. This article examines the evidence base for efficacy in venous leg ulcer management.
Focus on silver	This article reviews the background of the rise of silver in wound management and discusses the possible emergence of resistance.
Investigating patients' pain experience with venous leg ulcers.	This paper describes the experiences of patients with chronic venous leg ulcers during treatment with a new, non-adhesive foam dressing that releases ibuprofen.
Case report on the use of maggot therapy in a paediatric wound.	This case report examines the use of maggot therapy as an adjunct to surgery to cleanse an extensive post-traumatic wound in a 10 year old boy.
Assessing wound measurement tools	This paper analyses a number of different methods to measure wounds to record relative changes in size over time.
Clinical evidence on a sustained-release silver dressing	This article reviews the clinical evidence for a sustained-release silver dressing used to treat critically colonised wounds.
A collaborative model for teaching wound management	This paper describes how a partnership between a primary care tissue viability nurse, a commercial company and a higher education institution provided a new model for education using the wound bed preparation and TIME framework.

## Other features on the site

You can join the World Wide Wounds mailing list for free to receive regular updates and information. Other features include: Discussion forum; News; Product news; Product datacards; Reviews and Useful links.

*We encourage you to download and read the papers that interest you. Use the papers for education and information so you can deliver best practice to your patients.*

# Clinical Update: Skin Tears

*A skin tear is a traumatic wound that results from external friction and/or shearing forces that separates the epidermis from the dermis (partial thickness) or separates the dermis from the underlying structures (full thickness)*

Payne & Martin 1993

## 1. First Aid

**Stop the bleeding** Elevate the limb and/or apply gentle pressure. Avoid using potential adherents such as gauze or combine. Non-adherent foam can be useful. And/or apply a calcium alginate dressing for a short period (usually < 2 hours)

**Manage pain** Skin tears can be painful. Ensure appropriate analgesia if necessary.

**Cleanse** Once bleeding has stopped, cleanse gently. Irrigate with clean water or saline. Consider using Povidone Iodine if contaminated. If possible, remove any clot from under skin flaps.

**Approximate edges** As soon as bleeding has stopped, gently unroll any creased or folded skin. If possible, re-approximate the skin edges. Dry, cotton tipped probes or metal dressing forceps are best to use. Avoid putting tension on the flap and do not overstretch skin.

## 2. Classify

**Category 1** No skin loss. Edges are able to be completely re-approximated.

**Category 2** Partial skin loss once skin replaced. Unable to re-approximate edges completely.

**Category 3** Complete skin loss. No skin flaps remain or unable to replace skin flaps.

## 3. Apply a dressing

**Principles** If possible, avoid traditional adhesive dressings or adhesive tapes unless the dressing can be left insitu for a prolonged period (i.e. > 7 days). If an adhesive dressing or tape is used, remove with extreme caution and consider using adhesive remover wipes. Avoid changing dressings frequently. Remove dressings carefully to avoid lifting skin flaps.

**Dressing suggestions** (These are suggestions only. Each wound must be individually assessed)

Low exudate or Category 1	Petrolatum emulsion (e.g. Cuticerin, Adaptic, Atrauman) Silicone sheet (e.g. Mepitel) Silicone coated foam (e.g. Mepilex)
Moderate exudate Usually category 2 or 3	Silicone coated foam (e.g. Mepilex) Low adherent foam (e.g. Allevyn, Biatain) Foam with additives (e.g. Polymem)
Large exudate Usually category 2 or 3	Calcium alginate (e.g. SeaSorb Soft, Calci-Care, Kaltostat, Sorbsan) Hydrofibre (e.g. Aquacel) Super absorbent, low adherent (e.g. Alione, CombiDerm)

## 4. Document

Document according to organisational policies and protocols.

Reassess progress regularly. If not healing within four weeks consider further intervention or specialist assessment.

[Adapted from 'Skin Tear Management', AWMCN May 2006']

# Oxford summer school report

## *Report on the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Oxford-European Wound Healing Summer School – 21-24 June 2006*

The Oxford Summer School is an annual event held at St Anne's College, Oxford, & organized principally by Dr George Cherry of the Oxford Wound Healing Institute. It attracts participants from around the world to its high-class educational programme.

The theme of this year's Summer School was "Practical wound management based on therapy innovation and clinical research", with many of the presentations given by world-renowned experts. Professor Keith Harding opened proceedings with an insightful talk highlighting the gap between the theory of evidence-based clinical practice & its implementation, & emphasized that while evidence is not a single research study, & experience is not uniform, we must ensure that guidelines, protocols, consensus & position statements continue to be produced to assist clinicians until sufficient education, training & evidence exists.

KCI® was one of the major sponsors of the course, which may explain the Symposium on Negative Pressure Wound Therapy, which consumed the remainder of the first day's 'play'. Excellent presentations from many clinicians supported this therapy, but unfortunately time-keeping skills were lacking, which led to the cancellation of the practical workshop session.

Day 2 saw presentations on Education & Communication, with Australia's Geoff Sussman giving an interesting talk on the role of the pharmacist in patient education, while Dr Miles Maylor, a consultant nurse from the UK, gave a thought-provoking talk on the influences of nurses' personality on wound assessment. Unfortunately, poor time-keeping led to the cancellation of the planned discussion panel on effective communication between patients, carers & health care professionals, which may have proved very lively.

Other areas covered included wound microbiology, with presentations on silver dressings, Cerdak™ & larvae therapy; lymphoedema; acute wound management; pressure ulcers; diabetic wounds & vascular ulcers. Concurrent workshops were held on Days 2 & 3, but unfortunately one could only attend a single workshop each day.

The final day comprised a visit to the Oxford Wound Healing Unit at the Department of Dermatology, Churchill Hospital, Oxford. This was highly informative & interesting, with several patients volunteering their time to be presented to, & to discuss their condition & treatment with, the course participants.

As well as the educational programme, there were also several social events, including a punting experience (boats, not footballs!), in which my long-lost prowess from my misspent undergraduate years was re-discovered, much to the joy & relief of my fellow-mariners! Despite the lack of 'hands-on' workshops (a situation which one hopes will be rectified in the future), the Oxford Summer School was an excellent opportunity to listen to world experts whom one rarely sees in Australia, & to network with a variety of clinicians from many different countries.

*Paul Philcox*

## **AWMA News Release No. 3 July 06**

### *Australian Wound Management Association Inc*

Highlights: AWMA Committee Meeting 29 & 30 July 2006

*Geoff Sussman OAM* Congratulations are extended to Geoff Sussman who was recently awarded and OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours. The award recognises Geoff's significant contribution to Australia via services to Pharmacy, Wound Management and to the Australian Olympic team, particularly diving. This is a well deserved recognition for Geoff's commitment and enthusiasm in promoting best practice in wound management via research and education.

### *AWMA Conference: Evolving Landscapes: Dreams, Diversity & Disasters.*

*Darwin NT 7-10 May 2008.* Conference planning is progressing well. The Scientific Committee Chair is Allison Cowin. Allison is Head, Skin Research Laboratory, Child Health Research Institute North Adelaide, SA. Regular teleconferences of both the Scientific and Organising Committee are held and a draft program has been prepared. Potential key note speakers have been identified and will be invited shortly. It is proposed that the Conference will commence on Wednesday 7 May with a key note presentation followed by the welcome reception and opening of the Trade Exhibition. A site visit of the facilities in Darwin is planned by members of the Organising and Scientific Committee on 3-4 November 2006. Members will present at a seminar 0900-1400 on 4 November 2006. The program is designed to stimulate interest in the practice of wound management and the 2008 Conference. At the seminar conclusion a meeting will be held to ascertain interest in forming a wound management association in the Northern Territory.

<sup>th</sup> *6 AWMA Co-hosted Conference Canberra Act March 2006* A CD Rom of papers presented at the recent conference is available by request from Conference Logistics. Placing the papers on the AWMA website is not possible.

*Venous Leg Ulcer Guideline Development Committee* Professor David Hardman has accepted the invitation to lead the Venous Leg Ulcer Guideline Development Committee. The first meeting of the steering committee has occurred. Other members of the committee include A/P Michael Woodward, A/P K Carville, Ms Jan Rice, Ms Sue Templeton, Mrs Jenny Prentice and Judith Manning.

*APUAP (Australian Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel)* The Chairs of the APUAP have met and A/P Keryln Carville Chair, Governance Committee presented the draft Vision and Goal statements to the AWMA committee. It is envisaged that invitations will be sent out to join the Policy, Education and Research subcommittees in the near future. This is a very exciting initiative and provides an opportunity to reduce the occurrence of pressure ulcers in the Australian population.

### *AWMA Direct Membership*

Membership of AWMA is encouraged via state wound management associations. However, direct membership to AWMA is possible and will be available via the website in the near future. This will enable the Direct Membership (Full) to receive the Journal (Primary Intention) and attend AWMA conferences for the AWMA membership fee. It will enable a member to have voting rights on AWMA matters at AGMs or in postal referendums. There are no voting rights for Corporate or Associate categories of AWMA Direct Membership

### *Primary Intention Newsletter Insert*

The first AWMA Newsletter that will provide both AWMA and state association news is in advanced planning stages. AWMA thanks Ms Carol Baines for coordinating the newsletter in cooperation with state newsletter editors. It will be produced twice yearly in August and December.

**Michael Woodward. AWMA President**

## Wound education programs in S.A.

### *Carmen George. Clinical Nursing Specialist Services*

Sessions, study days, mini courses in Wound Management. All designed to meet the needs of your organisation. Also sessions on stoma care and continence management offered. For more information and costs contact Carmen George. Ph 0414 226 779.

### RDNS

Five day internal Wound Management Course. Can be completed as a certificate or 3 unit credit option within the School of Nursing, Flinders University of South Australia. RDNS also offers individualised education programs, sessions and workshops to suit your organisation. Contact the RDNS Education Centre. Ph: 8208 5300 and ask for the Education Centre.

## Upcoming education opportunity

### *RDNS Master Class in Wound Care*

## **Evidence based wound care and practice applications**

*Friday 10 November 2006 0900-1630*

It's all about the evidence! Evidence based practice is a crucial component in nursing care in order to meet client needs and outcomes in a systematic and contemporary manner. To support your skills in Advanced Wound Management practice this Master Class aims to provide you with the best, most contemporary information. Hear the passion and expertise from our panel of clinical specialists in wound management.

### *Speakers include:*

Greg Duncan	Pharmacist, Monash University
Sue Templeton	CNC Advanced Wound Specialist, RDNS
Tal Ellis	Director, Woundheal Australia
Margi Moncrieff	Nurse Practitioner, Wound Management, FMC

**Cost:** \$165 (fully catered)

**Venue:** RDNS Education Centre  
44 Greenhill Road, Wayville **(note new address)**

For further information and/or a registration form visit the web site:  
[www.healthed.rdns.net.au](http://www.healthed.rdns.net.au) → Courses → Master Classes → Wound Care

Proudly sponsored by **smith & nephew**



## Important dates

2006: SASVN Education nights

October 31: 'Nasties night' – infection / antimicrobial dressings

2008: 3<sup>rd</sup> World Union of Wound Healing Societies Meeting

Toronto, Canada

2008: May 7-10: 7<sup>th</sup> National Conference of the Australian Wound Management Association, Darwin

This newsletter aims to share information about contemporary issues in wound management. We welcome your contributions, resources, tips, case studies etc.

Submit contributions to the editor  
Sue Templeton Ph 1300 364 264 or  
[editor@sawma.org.au](mailto:editor@sawma.org.au)

Web address

Visit us at:

[www.sawma.org.au](http://www.sawma.org.au)

## SAWMA Committee Members

### Office Bearers

Ms Margi Moncrieff	(President)	Ph (w) 8204 5311
Ms Sue Templeton	(Vice President)	(w) 1300 364 264
Ms Andrea Smallman	(Secretary)	(h) 0418 816 152
Mr Paul Philcox	(Treasurer)	(w) 8222 1690
Mr Michael Arthur	(Membership officer)	8355 3500

### General Committee Members

Ms Chris Bashford	Ph (w)	1300 363 262
Ms Bec Daebeler		8201 4884
Ms Veronica Dottore		8222 4413
Ms Carmen George		0414 226 779
Ms Maree Prendergast		1300 364 264
Ms Janet Vincent		0419 825 407

Committee members can be contacted by phone, via the mailing address or through a message left on the SAWMA pager 8378 8884

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