



Wound Wisdom

Newsletter of the
South Australian Wound Management Association Inc.
Box 71 Rundle Mall, Adelaide, SA 5000
Telephone pager: 08 8378 8884

EDUCATION MEETING WEDNESDAY 15 AUGUST 2007

“Wound Lab”

Improve your skills in wound management

- Hear about the latest dressings
- See sharp debridement techniques
- Learn about treatment of hypergranulation
- Find out about the best ways to cleanse wounds

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

SAWMA MEMBERSHIP

Do you have colleagues who could use extra skills and knowledge in wound management? If so, encourage them to join SAWMA so they can access the great benefits of membership:

- journal, newsletter, education nights, seminars, website etc.

DIARY DATES 2007

Education nights
3rd Wednesday @ 1845

15 August

21 November

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

May was one of SAWMA's busiest and most successful months. For our education night we invited the South Australian Orthopaedic Nurses Association (SAON) to join us once again, for a combined meeting. The evening was well attended and the theme was osteomyelitis, diagnosis and management. The program provided a guide to patient and wound assessment, diagnostic tests and surgical, systemic and local wound management.

A few days later, SAWMA ran the Conference "Bacteria, Bioburden and Beyond". Interstate speakers included Greg Duncan, Michael Stacey, Keryln Carville and Annabelle Duncan. Local speakers included Tal Ellis, Oliver Mayo, Alison Cowin and David Cherry.

Here are a few of the many highlights of the conference.

- Hugh Hamilton looked at the role of bacteria in the winemaking process and kept delegates amused with his comparison of wine to a 'makeover'.
- Michael Stacey proposed a new way to think about 'critical colonisation' and the possible negative influence bacteria might have on wound healing throughout the colonisation continuum.
- Mellick Chehade shared his exciting work on a classification system for surgical debridement.
- Sue Templeton and Melissa O'Brien presented work their organisations have undertaken to manage topical antimicrobials.

The workshops were well attended and created much debate and discussion. It is hoped some of the work undertaken during the workshops might lead to guidelines to assist clinicians with issues including: storage of dressing products, and diagnosis and management of chronic wound infection. There was plenty of new knowledge to be had and valuable opportunities to network, meet colleagues, and peruse the trade displays.

Conference evaluations were excellent, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank: all the delegates whose attendance made this a successful event; the speakers, for their time and commitment; the committee for their hard work and preparation; and, the trade for their wonderful support. SAWMA is hoping to have most of the speaker presentations available on our website, within the next few months.

The August education night has evolved from ideas suggested in the conference evaluations. The key educational themes will be on wound product updates, wound debridement, wound cleansing and management of hypergranulation. The evening will commence with an update on products and then we will break into three workstations which will cover the remaining topics. I'm certain you will find it an excellent foundation to increase your knowledge and skills and promote best practice.

SAWMA looks forward to seeing you at our future educational events.

With Kind Regards,



Margi Moncrieff
SAWMA President

REPORT ON A VISIT TO THE WOUND HEALING RESEARCH UNIT – WALES, UK

The Wound Healing Research Unit (WHRU) at Cardiff University is an internationally recognised centre of excellence for the investigation of non-healing or complex wounds. Founded in 1991, this inaugural wound healing research unit is committed to the development of resources to benefit healthcare professionals and clients with wound healing problems. Within the unit are distinct areas of expertise in research, education and clinical practice. Professor Keith Harding is the Director of the WHRU.

With a planned trip to visit family in the UK, I couldn't resist the opportunity to visit this dynamic centre. The unit attracts many visitors from the local and international healthcare industry each year, therefore, careful planning is necessary to ensure individual learning needs are met. With my visit limited to only one day I was particularly interested in the benefits of a multi-disciplinary wound clinic and the implementation of holistic wound assessment.

The day was spent at the Diabetic Foot Clinic at the Royal Gwent Hospital and the St. Woolis Hospital, Newport. Unfortunately, Professor Harding was overseas, but the research team, consisting of a medical registrar, specialist nurses, podiatrists, orthotist, occupational therapist and a physiotherapist included me in their clinical assessment and management of patients presenting to the clinic. On a monthly basis, a vascular surgeon and orthopaedic surgeon join the team. It was clearly obvious the patient was the most important member of the team.

This dynamic and passionate group of professionals worked together to conduct a holistic patient assessment. The registrar and nurse reviewed all factors affecting healing, with particular interest in pain, nutrition, sleep patterns and a complete social history. There was no delay in initiating investigations (including tissue biopsy) to establish wound aetiology or in commencement of required drug therapy and wound bed preparation. The clinic was literally a 'one-stop shop' in which the patient avoided multiple appointments to different specialists.

I was overwhelmed at the genuine concern for the spiritual well-being and quality of life of each patient by the research team. This aspect was an integral part of the assessment and management plan, often resulting in assessment and modification of home/social circumstances by the occupational therapist and social worker. A truly holistic assessment.

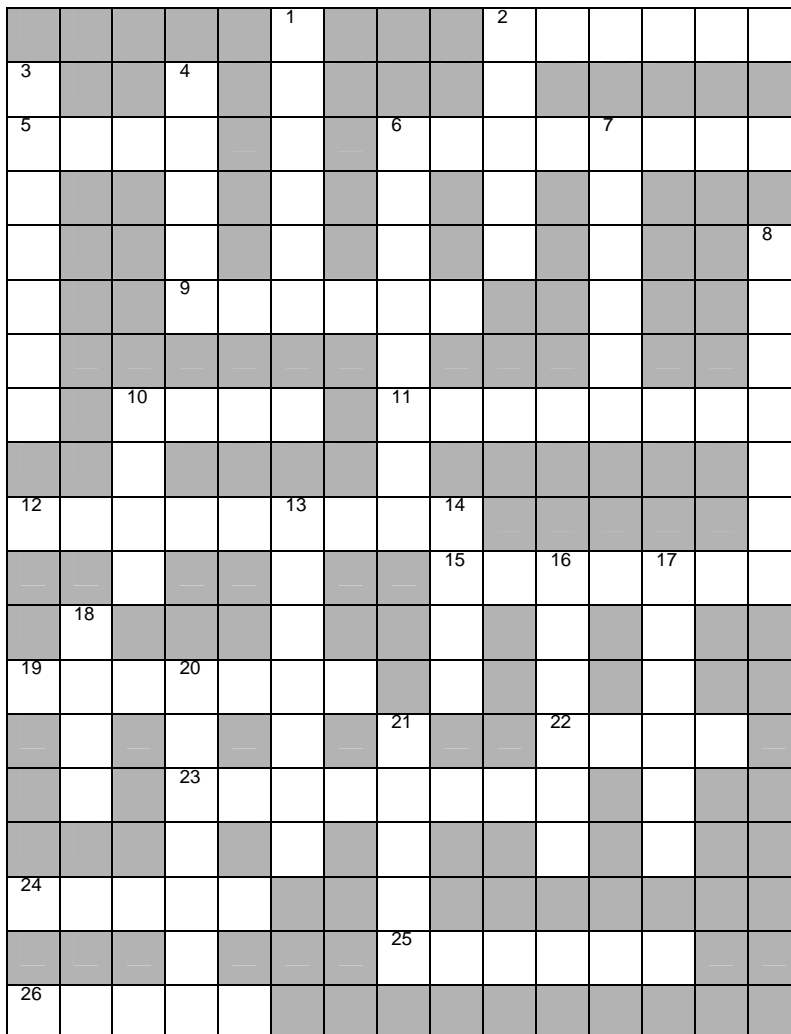
Excellent communication was provided to the community nurses and GPs regarding wound aetiology, factors affecting healing, investigations conducted and therapies commenced, together with a rationalised wound management plan.

My only disappointment was not being able to stay longer and attend more clinics to broaden my knowledge. The clear take-home message for me was that there is much investigating and assessing to be done before you decide on an appropriate wound management plan for your patient. A multi-disciplinary wound clinic promotes holistic assessment, prompt and appropriate investigations and management of the spiritual and physical well-being of a person with a wound.

I was certainly educated and inspired by this experience and urge all SAWMA members to consider a visit to the WHRU if undertaking a study tour or visiting the UK. The WHRU education department can be contacted via <http://www.whru.co.uk/cnt/eduh.asp>.

Andrea Smallman, SAWMA Committee member

WOUND CROSSWORD



Down

1. Element used as an antimicrobial.
2. Mechanical force occurring when the skin stays in place and the underlying tissues and skeleton slide.
3. Thickness of a wound that does not extend into subcutaneous tissue.
4. A blind ended tract.
6. Type of exudate often associated with an infected wound.
7. Non-viable wound tissue that often has a soft, whitish appearance.
8. Water of drinking quality.
9. Action used when cleansing a wound with gauze.
13. The law governing the effects of graduated compression.
14. The 'E' in TIME.
16. Investigation used to determine if a wound might be cancerous.
17. Powerful antiseptic used in skin preparation and wound management
18. Essential mineral for wound healing. Can also be used topically.
20. Action of malignant proliferation.
21. Loss of integrity of the tissues.

Across

2. Condition when clinical infection occurs in the blood.
5. Simple, non-invasive test used to determine arterial sufficiency (abbreviation).
6. Compressive force that can lead to tissue ischaemia and breakdown.
7. Normal wound exudate.
10. The largest organ of the human body.
11. Redness.
12. The process whereby a wound becomes filled with new tissue.
15. The process of removing non-viable tissue from a wound
19. A glycocalyx covering made by some bacteria that resists penetration by some antimicrobials.
22. An unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with potential or actual tissue damage.
23. Dead tissue.
24. The artery most commonly used for palpating a foot pulse.
25. The inner, thicker layer of the skin.
26. Used to activate some silver-containing dressings.

PAUL HARTMANN / AWMA ADVANCED WOUND CARE SCHOLARSHIPS

Invitation to apply – call for case studies

The Advanced Wound Care Course (AWC) is presented by Health Education and Management Innovations (HEMI). It has been offered for over 12 years in Australia and is facilitated by Professor Donald MacLellan and Associate Professor Gerit Mulder.

The AWC is an intensive three day course that further develops wound management skills and knowledge for clinicians who already demonstrate a sound understanding of wound management. The course is not suitable for clinicians with only basic wound management skills.

The scholarship is valued at \$2 500 and covers registration, accommodation, travel and meals. One scholarship is available for a South Australian wound management clinician to attend the 2008 or 2009 course.

This is an exciting opportunity to attend a challenging, rewarding and fun course.

Entry for the scholarship is by written case study by 30 November 2007.

Complete details, including further information about the course and entry criteria are available from the Australian Wound Management Association web site: www.awma.com.au
SAWMA encourages members to apply for this prestigious course.

AWMA 7TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

On 7-10 May 2008 the Australian Wound Management Association will host its 7th national conference at the Darwin Entertainment Centre & Holiday Inn, Darwin.

The theme will be:

Dreams, Diversity and Disasters

The conference will focus on the traditional and scientific methods of wound management, the influence of cultural diversity such as service provision and compliance with treatment regimens and Australia's leading role in disaster induced wounds, including hospital health logistics.

AWMA is currently calling for abstracts for the conference for both oral presentations (15 minutes duration) and posters.

Key dates:	Closing date for abstract submission	Friday 16 November 2007
	Distribution of registration brochures	October 2007
	Closing date for early bird registrations	Friday 7 December 2007

For further information regarding this exciting event and full details on abstract submission visit the AWMA web site at: www.awma.com.au

AWMA NEW RELEASE HIGHLIGHTS

No 2 May 2007

AWMA AGM Friday 18 May 2007 at 1715-1815 Adelaide, South Australia

The Annual General Meeting Australian Wound Management Association Inc (SA) was held in Adelaide in conjunction with South Australian Wound Management Association Conference. All reports were tabled and presented. Jenny Prentice has completed her term as Immediate Past President and has also decided to not continue as Joint-Editor of the Journal Primary Intention. Jenny's excellent work, her attention to detail and enormous contribution to AWMA was acknowledged with sustained applause.

Wound Awareness Week 26-30 March 2007

This was an exciting initiative and included a national television community service announcement sponsored by the Pharmacy Guild, Smith & Nephew and Shear Comfort.

AWMA acknowledges these companies' wonderful support of this venture which ensured its success. A number of community members responded to the WAW website page and provided an insight into community needs. The State and Territory activities, despite the short time frame, were excellent. In 2008 the Wound Awareness Week will be held 31 March to 6 April. AWMA is entering into a contract with the media company that supported the WAW 2007 campaign. This will ensure that a range of activities and materials will be prepared to assist AWMA and the States and Territories to stage this event in 2008

AWMA Guidelines and Standards

The VLUGDC has almost completed the Business Plan which will be submitted to NHMRC. When this is accepted NHMRC will support AWMA during the guideline development process. The AWMA Standards of Wound Management are under review and money has been provided to secure a research assistant to facilitate the literature review. The APUAP is exploring options for collaboration with NPUAP and EPUAP on guidelines.

With regards

Michael Woodward

AWMA President

The full news release can be read on the AWMA web site: www.awma.com.au

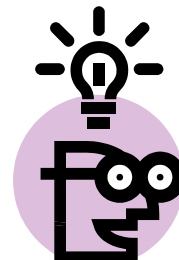
WOUND EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN SA

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.



WOUND MANAGEMENT & SKIN INTEGRITY - A SYMPOSIUM FOR NURSES

Ausmed Conferences are holding another of their highly successful wound management symposiums in Adelaide in September.

Date: Tuesday 25 – Wednesday 26 September 2007

Venue: Old Adelaide Inn, O'Connell Street, North Adelaide

Cost: \$349.80 (includes GST)

Registration or further information: net www.ausmed.com.au Ph (03) 9375 7311

The symposium covers many topics including:

- Anatomy and physiology of a wound
- Factors affecting wound healing
- Debridement
- Assessment of wounds
- Pathophysiology of chronic wounds
- Bandaging and wound dressings

Facilitators: Greg Duncan, Geoff Sussman & Sue Templeton

SASVN – STUDY DAY MAJOR LIMB AMPUTATION

The South Australian Society for Vascular Nursing is holding a study day which will have relevance to many SAWMA members. These study days are very informative and practical.

Date: Saturday 4 August 2007

Time: 0830-1530

Venue: Enterprise House: 136 Greenhill Road, Unley

Cost: SASVN members: \$10 SAWMA members/students: \$70

Topics to be covered include:

- Surgery
- Rehabilitation
- Physiotherapy
- Pain management
- Concurrent sessions: - Casting
- Stump bandaging
- Prosthetics

Enquires and registration forms: Sheri Sandison ph 8276 9666 pager 37575

Email: sheralee.sandison@rgh.sa.gov.au or visit the web site: www.sasvn.com.au

SAWMA MEMBERSHIP

SAWMA is always keen to recruit new or previous members.

If you know someone that is keen to learn more about wound management, encourage them to join SAWMA. For a low annual membership fee of \$50 they will have:

- Membership of SAWMA and automatic membership of the Australian Wound Management Association (AWMA)
- Automatic subscription to 'Primary Intention' the Australian journal of wound management
- Quarterly SAWMA newsletter
- Free admission to quarterly SAWMA education nights
- Reduced registration fees to SAWMA and AWMA conferences
- Access to the SAWMA research grant
- Access to SAWMA and AWMA web sites



SAWMA Objectives

To promote and increase awareness of wound management by:

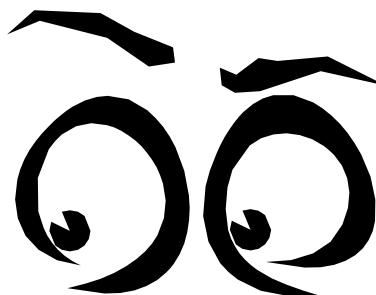
- Establishing a network of persons with expertise in wound management
- Providing current information to health professionals
- Developing educational strategies for health professionals
- Facilitating and encouraging research

So, come on, get your colleagues to joint SAWMA. New members are always welcome. Membership forms are available at: www.sawma.org.au

WOUND CROSSWORD - ANSWERS

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I hope you enjoyed this crossword. But I trust you did not look at the answers too soon!



IMPORTANT DATES

2007: SASVN Education Meetings: August 4 (study day), October 31

www.sasvn.com.au

2008: June 4-8: 3rd World Union of Wound Healing Societies Meeting,

Toronto, Canada: www.wuwhs.org

2008: May 7-10: 7th National Conference of the Australian Wound Management Association, Darwin, Australia

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

Web address
Visit us at:
www.sawma.org.au

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Committee members
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