



Tasmanian
Wound Care Association
www.twca.com.au

TASMANIAN WOUND CARE ASSOCIATION

DEEPES TISSUES

March 2008

WELCOME one and all to the current TWCA Newsletter. Hope this publication finds you well and wound savvy. If you have any items you would like published in the newsletter, please submit to Carol on 62 228322, 0408 992 403 or e-mail carol.baines@dhhs.tas.gov.au



Australian Wound Management Association,
7th National Conference
Dreams, Diversity, Disasters

Darwin Entertainment Centre and Holiday Inn
Darwin, NT
7-10 May 2008

Keynote presentations by
Prof. Fiona Wood
Prof. Keryn Carnlie

Sessions include:

- Nutritional Management of wounds
- Pain & wound management
- Diabetic wounds – new developments
- Leg ulcers – new developments
- Microbiology & Wound Management



Check out www.awma.com.au

Membership Renewal Incentive

The TWCA committee is pleased to announce membership renewal incentives for the 2008/09 year. All loyal members (excluding Corporate) who have been financial for three or more consecutive years and renew prior to September 30th 2008 will receive the bonus. This bonus will then be offered each following year to those members who reach their 3rd year of continuous membership. Stay tuned for more details on this exciting support and appreciation of our members.



Australian Wound Management Association Inc

News Release No 1 February 2008

**Highlights: AWMA Committee Meeting,
2 & 3 February 2008 held in Adelaide South Australia
Wound Awareness Campaign: March 2007- April 2008**

The WAC (2) continues with the AWMA President and Vice President meeting with prominent Australian politicians re wound product access. The Community Service Announcement 08 is currently being filmed and will begin to be shown on television during Wound Awareness Week 31st March – 6 April 08.

The CSA 07 is still having wide exposure particularly in country areas. AWMA is very pleased that the author and WCA NSW Patron Mr Bryce Courtenay has agreed to be involved in both the filming of the CSA 08 and in WAW activities for 2008. The support of both Mr Courtenay and all state Wound Care/Management Associations is fantastic.

Posters and give-aways are being produced and state associations will be provided with them before Wound Awareness Week.

Wound Awareness Week 31 March – 6 April 08 Activities

States and Territories have indicated that there is at least one significant wound awareness event planned during wound Awareness Week 31 March -6 April 2008. Events range from public forums, displays in public areas community and /or hospitals to wound association education meetings or similar activity. (Check AWMA website for details soon) The website. www.elephantintheroom.com.au will link to AWMA website and is available for comment from all interested parties including health providers and members of the public during the wound awareness week and month of April 08

AWMA Conference: Evolving Landscapes: Dreams, Diversity & Disasters. Darwin NT 7-10 May 2008.

This will be a great conference and registrations are coming in fast. The final conference program is being prepared. The organising committee was over-whelmed with the large number of abstracts submitted and therefore have been able to create a very stimulating program. Early-bird registrations close on Friday 29 February 2008. AWMA therefore encourages you to apply as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Don't forget to book airfares and accommodation as early as possible and contact me directly if you are having any difficulties.

Confirmed International and National speakers include Prof Greg Schulz, Prof Mark Ferguson, Dr Keryln Carville, Prof Fiona Wood and Dr Bart Currie.

KCI are the Platinum sponsor for the conference. Trade commitment has been excellent and there will be a wonderful Trade Exhibition

AWMA Conference Darwin 7-10 May 2008 cont

The Australasian Wound & Tissue Repair Society (an AWMA branch) will also hold their scientific meeting immediately prior to the AWMA conference. For more details see www.awtrs.org or email rachelm@chw.edu.au

WUWHS Conference 4-8 June 2008 Toronto Canada

This will be an exciting International Wound Management Conference. Be sure to visit the website www.wuwhs2008.ca where information on the themes of the conference and the program plan can be found and importantly the registration form. Flyers with information can also be found on the AWMA website www.awma.com.au

AWMA will be hosting a stand during the lunch and tea breaks of this conference so please come by and speak with the AWMA representatives when you are at this Conference.

AWMA Guidelines and Standards

The Venous Leg Ulcer Guideline Development Committee's Business Plan which was submitted in October 07 to NHMRC has been accepted by them as an NHMRC project for July 08-09. This means NHMRC will guide and support the guideline development. Whilst waiting the submission outcome Corrine Trevitt and Judith Barker begun the systematic literature review and rating according to NHMRC criteria. The NHMRC support is a very important step forward for AWMA and is part of the process to have the Guidelines (when completed) endorsed by NHMRC.

The VLUGDC meanwhile is continuing to seek unconditional financial grants to assist with this project. NHMRC estimate the cost for the development of Guidelines to be approximately \$300,000.

A literature review for the AWMA Standards of Wound Management and the Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention and Prediction of Pressure Ulcers is also being conducted using the NHMRC criteria for gauging the level of evidence. A large repository of articles is being stored electronically and the literature is now being rated using NHMRC levels of evidence. International collaboration and review of the future CPG guidelines will occur with NZ and Singapore members. It is hoped that the revised Standards for Wound Management can be published during 2008 and the APUAP Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prediction Prevention & Treatment of Pressure Ulcers be launched at the AWMA Conference in Perth March 2010

AWMA AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the AWMA will be held during the 7th AWMA Conference on Thursday 8 May 2008 at 1615. Drinks will be provided upon entry to the room. All positions at the AGM will be declared vacant. The relevant notices and forms will be available on the website www.awma.org.au and will be inserted into the February edition of the Journal Primary Intention.

With regards

Associate Professor Michael Woodward.

AWMA President



TREASURER'S UPDATE



Grants:

TWCA Research Grant is now available up to \$10,000. The Clifford Craig Medical Research Trust are kindly administering this fantastic opportunity for us. Two Education Grants up to \$1500 each are also available and applications must be received by the end of April to take advantage of this support. For criteria and details see TWCA website.

Finances:

Our bank account funds are very healthy, and we have diversified our savings into a Mortgage Trust and Fixed Term Deposit with MyState on recommendation of a financial planner. This optimises returns and provides more safety net through having money in different investments. Low member rates to Education sessions around the State have been made possible by such investments and subscriptions.

Audit:

The 2006-2007 Audit has been completed by Wise Lord & Ferguson and those interested in such details may access this document through our website in pdf format.

Donation 2008:

Dr Jane Edwards is a Tasmanian born and trained doctor who has been working overseas for more than 5 years, providing her expertise to improve health for under-privileged people in Africa and Thailand. Her project can be viewed at www.thehavenproject.net and TWCA have agreed to purchase dressing products to support such clinics for our donation this year. We think you will agree how encouraging it is to be able to support local health professionals working under difficult circumstances overseas, and assist with wound healing in such a direct and topical way. It is exciting to be in a position to assist this worthy cause.

Pip Rice

RN, Treasurer, TWCA

TWCA SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual General Meeting and Call for Nomination for State Representation with the Australian Wound Management Association Inc 2008

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in accordance with the Constitution of the Association, during the April 11th TWCA study meeting to be held in Burnie.

**Nomination forms can be downloaded from the website
www.twca.com.au**



Tasmanian
Wound Care Association
www.twca.com.au

Present the biggest educational event and trade show for 2008

Tools of the Trade



Friday April 11th

Burnie Civic Centre

9.30 am – 3.00 pm
Registration from 8.30am

Informative presentations, a fabulous trade exhibition all followed by a spectacular finale of raffle draws and wound fun!
(including TWCA AGM)

Do you have a desire to present in a safe non-threatening environment?
Do you have a case study you'd like to present?
Novice presenters are encouraged.
If this is you – please contact Juliet Scott 6336 5103

Make up a table from work and register now

.....cut.....

REGISTER NOW

Circle the appropriate registration cost.

Members TWCA	\$50	Non Members	\$60
Full time student	\$40 (Student card required at registration)		

Registration includes morning tea and lunch

Name.....
Email contact.....
Postal contact.....

Enquiries to robyn.carrick@dhhs.tas.gov.au bebe.brown@dhhs.tas.gov.au
Post your cheque/money order to **TWCA GPO Box 1759 Hobart 7001**
Or by EFT **BSB 807 009 Account No 1211 8692 Reference Your name**

WOUNDS AT WORK

Holman Clinic delivers radiation therapy to an average of 70-80 patients each day, treating a range of cancers. A potential side effect of radiation therapy is a skin reaction. One of our roles as nurses is to educate about skin care and assess and treat skin reactions. To develop a skin reaction, the patient must receive a certain amount of radiotherapy and some factors such as chemotherapy and smoking can increase the reaction.

There are three types of skin reaction and some patients may develop all three during their treatment.

Erythema is the reddening of the skin and there may be itch and a pimply rash present as well. We treat this with sorbolene and 10% glycerine if symptoms are mild.



Brisk erythema is treated with Solugel +/- 0.05% steroid cream. Solugel will cool, moisturise and soothe the skin

Dry desquamation is when there is skin loss but it is dry underneath. After individual patient assessment we may use either Solugel or a soft silicone foam e.g. Mepilex.



Moist desquamation is when there is skin loss and exudate and can include blistering and nerve ending pain. If the wounds are light to moderately exuding then Mepilex (soft silicone foam) can be used. For sore, dry and cracked nipples Aquaclear provides comfort.



- If the anatomical position of the wound e.g. axilla makes dressings difficult to apply or the wound exudes heavily then use Mepilex Transfer to conform to the wound and Mesorb or other absorbent pad as a secondary dressing.
- If the site is difficult to dress and and/or infected Silvazine cream and a soft absorbent dressing is considered. **Note** Silvazine can not be used during the course of treatment due to the heavy metal content.

- Net pants (normally used to retain incontinence pads) are easily modified to provide a comfortable tape free garment. When used on the upper trunk area we cut out the crutch then 2 small arm holes. A second garment can be used to give shoulder to waist fitting.



From the soft silicone foam group our most commonly used dressings are Mepilex Lite, Mepilex and Mepilex Transfer. We use them on all three types of skin reactions if necessary. They bring relief from nerve ending pain and ensure a healthy wound healing environment.

We review skin reactions as needed and patients are encouraged to attend skin review follow ups once they have finished treatment if necessary. Most skin reactions are healed within a month of finishing radiation therapy.

Guidelines and References:

Holman Clinic guidelines

NSW Cancer Council Guidelines

Skin Care Instructions For Patients

1. Apply Sorbolene and 10% glycerine cream to treatment area 2-3 times a day from beginning of treatment.
2. Do not expose the area being treated to direct heat - this includes - electric blankets (may be used to warm the bed then turned off), hot water bottles, sun rays, hot baths, ray/sun lamps, saunas.
3. You may bath or shower. Remember to use lukewarm water in the area being treated with radiation and use a mild skin wash (e.g. QV Wash, Dove unscented). Pat skin dry using a soft towel. Do not rub skin.
4. If having radiotherapy to your scalp or head wash your hair with a baby shampoo. Hair dryers can be used on a COOL POSITION.
5. Avoid the use of creams, perfumed soaps and lotions, talc powders, perfumes, aftershaves, make-up unless instructed by the staff at the clinic.
6. Avoid substances which contain heavy metals in the treatment field. These include zinc oxide and ointments that contain aluminium.
7. Avoid rubbing, massaging or scratching the skin in the treatment field.
8. Avoid tight fitting clothing or friction over the treatment area such as a bra, belt, nylon fabrics or other restrictive clothing.
9. Avoid the use of tapes, Band-Aids and other adhesive dressings on the skin in the treatment area.
10. Avoid shaving in the treatment area, if necessary use an electric shaver.
11. The skin in the treatment area will be sensitive to the sun after treatment. Protective clothing is recommended and/or high protection sunscreen.

**WOUND AWARENESS WEEK
31 MARCH – 6 APRIL 2008**

Check on the website for details www.elephantintheroom.com.au

THE ROYAL HOBART HOSPITAL WOUND CARE INTRANET SITE.

Over the last two years a group consisting of nurse clinicians, nurse managers and members of UTAS school of Nursing engaged in a research project to examine nurse’s knowledge, attitudes and practices relating to wound management. As a result of the research findings we were given an education and training grant to develop wound related educational tools for use by clinicians. A new IT and E Learning project position had just been created at the Royal and with this persons support we were able to move away from traditional paper based resources and instead develop an intranet site. The interviews and questionnaires conducted as part of the original research formed the framework for the site content. The new clinical nurse educators have played a key role in assisting clinicians to develop some of this content. A new wound assessment tool was also introduced along with a wound assessment guide in lanyard form.

We have just conducted 3 study days in conjunction with the Hobart Private Hospital and these were well attended. With staff now so well informed I might even start shopping at lunch time!

So for those of you with intranet access – watch carefully – its all going to happen in March.

**Anne Smith
CNC Wound Management
RHH.**



Wound Care Mini-Expo

**Hobart
Community
Health
Nursing
Service**



**Wednesday
9th April
11.30am — 5.00pm**

Please Note: No Parking
on Repat Site

Company Reps Available: (Recreation Room)
Convatec, Hartmans, Medihoney, Molnlycke

Presentations: (Lower Statton Building)		
11.30am - 1.30pm	Juliet Scott	Doppler Education & Practice
1.45pm - 2.30pm	Anne Smith	Wound Bed Preparation
2.30pm - 3.30pm	Sankar Sinha	Debridement
3.45pm - 4.10pm	Bebe Brown	Hyperbaric Treatment
4.15pm - 5.00pm	Bec Schrale	Minor Burns

**REFRESHMENTS
available for
GOLD COIN
DONATION**



JUST POP IN - OR STAY FOR THE AFTERNOON

For bookings or more
details, contact
Lea Young

Phone: 03 6222 7602
Fax: 03 6222 7600
E-mail:
hcns@dhhs.tas.gov.au



Emergency Management of Severe Burns Course

Numbers are limited!

The Emergency Management of Severe Burns course teaches how to recognise, assess, stabilise and transfer the severely burnt patient.

A manual, outlining all aspects of the emergency management of burns, is distributed before the course.

There is a brief series of lectures highlighting important aspects of the Aetiology, Pathophysiology, and the Emergency Management and Treatment of the patient.

Relevant clinical skills are demonstrated and important topics are explained in more detail in group discussions.

Life-like case simulations are then used to consolidate and integrate the course material.

It is open to medical, nursing, and allied health personnel, and it is recognised that participants will be drawn from a variety of backgrounds.

The course concludes with an assessment. On successful completion, the candidate will receive an official certificate.

During the Course, photographs may be taken for teaching or promotional material at conferences and/or posting on the ANZBA web site. In accordance with the Privacy Act Legislation, it is necessary to obtain consent for such publication. Please complete the box section below, if you agree to the release of photographs, should you be included in them.

COURSE FEE:

ANZBA Members

Early Bird* AU\$380.00
Payment after 3 Apr 08 \$430.00

Includes the manual, instruction, refreshments & GST

Non-Members

Early Bird* AU\$510.00
Payment after 3 Apr 08 \$560.00

***Early Bird:**

Payment must be received before 3 April 2008

Cancellation Fees apply – please contact the Secretariat Office for policy details

ENQUIRIES:

Secretariat Office,
Australian and New Zealand Burn Association
Tel: (07) 3872 2250, Fax: (07) 3856 4727 or
Email: anzba@amaq.com.au

PHOTO:

Please include a passport size photo with your registration form and payment.

TIME & LOCATION:

Registration: 7.30 a.m., lectures starting at 8 am sharp. Conclusion – 5.45 p.m. A detailed location map will be provided prior to course date.

Education Calendar 2008

March 26th – 30th Wound Awareness Week

April 9th Mini Wound Expo (see flyer on page 6)

April 11th TWCA Tools of the Trade-Burnie Civic Centre

April 29th Sandown Park-Hobart, Wound Management update

May 7th – 10th AWMA Darwin

May 14th – 16th EWMA Lisbon Portugal

June 4th – 8th WUWHS Toronto Canada

July 2nd Swansea-May Shaw, Wound Management update

September 24th West Coast Wound Management update

October 1st Hobart Tools of the Trade Dinner Meeting

Please confirm dates and venues on our website www.twca.com.au

All items featured are submitted with the philosophy of improving wound care for sufferers and carers. No financial support is given or offered by wound care product manufacturers or distributors in the making of the newsletter. If you have any concerns or questions about items featured, please contact either:

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