



WMAI

Wound Management
Association of Ireland

Quarterly Newsletter

Promoting Best Practise in Wound Care



Issue 10 - December 2013

Dear Members and Colleagues.

Welcome to our December issue of the WMAI newsletter. As we approach the end of the year it is timely to reflect on our achievements over the last 12 months and look forward to future initiatives.



This issue of the newsletter features the experiences of three of our members who were sponsored to attend the 12th national WMAI conference held in the beautiful city of Cork. It was fantastic to see such a great turnout particularly when funding for attending conferences is scarce and it takes huge commitment for clinicians to get time away from the work place. The high attendance truly demonstrates the dedication of our membership and colleagues working in wound care. I am sure those who attended will agree that the conference was a resounding success. I would like to congratulate the southern branch for all of their trojan work in organising such a great event.

This issue also features articles on how members of WMAI supported the World-wide STOP Pressure Ulcer day initiative on the 21st November. Members within the various regions organised promotional and educational events in their workplace to raise awareness of pressure ulcers (PU) amongst the public, current and future health professionals. Thanks to all members who gave their time proactively to support this important campaign.

Evidence is crucial in our quest to deliver evidence-based wound care and promote best practice. I am therefore delighted to announce that our bursary awards will help to fund two research projects over the coming months. Congratulations to our bursary recipients Julie Jordan O' Brien and Dr Georgina Gethin. Julie will be leading on research that will investigate the prevalence and resource impact of wounds within an

urban area of Ireland, and Georgina's research will investigate PH mapping in chronic wounds.

On a final note I am delighted and honoured to serve as President of WMAI and I hope, alongside the national executive, to continue to build upon the fantastic work undertaken by our past presidents and previous executive members. I am sure 2014 will continue to be a busy year for the WMAI as we continue to realise our key objectives; to promote a multi-professional approach to wound care, to promote best practice in wound care through education, research and through the dissemination and sharing of knowledge.

Finally I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all the very best for Christmas and a prosperous New Year to you and yours.

Caroline McIntosh, WMAI President

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EWMA News



O'É Gaillimh
NUI Galway

Pressure Ulcer Prevention – Grant Awarded.

In November 2013 students of the Schools of Nursing and Midwifery and Podiatry in NUI Galway, along with Prof Caroline McIntosh and Dr. Georgina Gethin of NUI Galway and Kate Arkley of Western Branch of WMAI were successful in obtaining a grant from the 'Explore' fund to develop information strategies for informal carers in pressure ulcer prevention. The Explore fund in NUIG allows students and staff on campus to work together in turning innovative ideas into realities.

This project will run over the next nine months and will bring together national agencies, carers, academics, students and clinicians to develop means of supporting and educating the growing number of informal carers providing support in the home care setting. Information needs will be assessed and education initiatives will be developed including leaflets, video and apps. This award also recognises the collaboration between students and staff and the fact that these studies are the health care providers of the future, therefore engaging them in this type of work and awareness is pivotal to future success. The team members are: Lauren Brennan, Fiona Mullins, Jacqui Hartigan, Olga Carey, Brid McGing, Orla Grealish, Georgina Gethin, Caroline McIntosh, Kate Arkley.



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The Western Branch of WAMI sponsored three places at the National Conference - here the attendees talk about the experience.

Barbara Kavanagh, PHN Tuam

I had the great privilege of attending the 12th National Wound Management Conference in Cork in early October. The theme of this year's conference was "Wound care - The journey through Life. The theme content most definitely portrayed all aspects of wound care from paediatrics to adults, to specialised care as in diabetic, obstetric, palliative care, surgical site infection, as well as prevention and treatment of pressure sores and black heels. Another very interesting topic covered was the ethical challenges in wound care mainly consent and refusal. The practical workshops were excellent, I attended the compression bandaging, and the classification of dressings and am proud to say that we are very up to speed in Galway in our bandaging techniques and our dressing choices. The highlight of the conference for me was:

- × The meeting of old friends and new
- × The wonderful knowledge gained.
- × The International Wound Infection Institute session of which I must speak about. Wound healing, the importance of wound bed preparation, the use of antimicrobials, predicting wound healing progress, and regular wound assessments. The Institute uses a systematic approach to wound infection management, one of their recent approaches is called the TIME acronym which means, tissue, infection, management of edge and exudate.
- × The poster and exhibition viewing were also excellent

I would definitely encourage my colleagues to join WMAI and to attend the next conference in 2015.

Mary Burke, Vice Chairperson, Western Branch

Firstly I would like to thank the Western branch of WMAI for sponsoring me to attend the Cork conference at the beginning of October. Unfortunately I was only able to attend the first day of the conference. The programme had something for all as reflected in the conference theme "A journey through life".

I found all the presentations very informative and relevant to practice and the speakers were excellent. I particularly enjoyed the talk by Glynis Peele on wound care in paediatrics and felt this was very practical and clear. The talk by Mr. Jason Kelly was also very interesting and complemented the previous talk by Glynis

Peele. I also enjoyed the talk by Dr. Diarmuid Smith on Diabetic foot disease. The other presentation I enjoyed was the topic on T.I.M.E - is it still relevant? It was great to get updated on this by International experts from the IWII. The presenters of this topic came across so enthusiastic and passionate about wound management and this was really inspiring.

I felt the conference was very well organised and the committee of the southern branch were very helpful and did an excellent job all around. Well done to all involved in organising an excellent conference.

Edel Deane, Public Health Nurse Killala, Co. Mayo

To my very pleasant surprise I was chosen from a draw in the Western branch of W.A.M.I to attend the W.A.M.I. wound care conference in October in Rochestown in Cork. Naturally I was delighted to attend this prestigious and well organised two day conference on wound care. I felt as a Public Health Nurse involved in wound on a day to day basis, it would be very beneficial to me for my practice.

My expectations were fulfilled. The conference covered in a very holistic way wound assessment, also diabetes and the diabetic foot to strategic planning for diabetics, covering eye care to podiatry. The intervals and the time gave a valuable time to reflect on my practice, the key point always look beyond the wound and complete a holistic assessment of the client. Not to mention a chance to network with colleagues who have huge level of knowledge on wound care. I found the conference enormous benefit to my practice and shared the experience with my colleagues. I would like to acknowledge the opportunity for professional developmental supported by W.A.M.I.

We're on the web —www.wmai.ie

Please send any items for inclusion in future newsletters to wmainewsletter@gmail.com



Introduction of new initiative in 2014 to prevent pressure ulcers

Nov 21st marked Worldwide Stop Pressure Ulcer day. As part of the National Quality Improvement Programme, collaboration is being established for the prevention of pressure ulcers in Ireland. Professor Zena Moore, Associate Professor and Director of Nursing Research, RCSI is on the collaborations steering group.

Prof Zena Moore (far right) and Ms Julie Jordan O'Brien (far left) are part of the pressure ulcer collaboration's steering group



There is substantial international evidence that a collaborative quality improvement approach can rapidly and significantly reduce the rate of pressure ulcers. The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Breakthrough Model on Collaboratives has been selected as a suitable training programme to use in Ireland to help prevent pressure ulcers. Collaboratives are a widely used healthcare quality improvement approach. They are a proven method for successfully training a large group of people and maintaining improvements once the training ends. A specific topic is chosen (in this case pressure ulcers) and then appropriate teaching and coaching faculty (such as physicians, nursing, allied health professionals and improvement experts) deliver the training.

A steering group has been established and the collaborative is expected to begin operating in one region in February 2014. Speaking on Stop Pressure Ulcer Day, Professor Zena Moore said 'This pressure ulcer collaborative will enable participants to collect accurate data in relation to pressure ulcers and build the collection process into their daily work. It will also support participating teams in meeting the National Standards for Safer Better Healthcare.'

Members of the western branch of WMAI coordinated events across Galway to support worldwide STOP pressure ulcer day. Dr. Georgina Gethin and Prof. Caroline McIntosh led on the campaign at NUI Galway which saw colleagues from different disciplines (nursing, podiatry and occupational therapy) come together in a bid to raise awareness of pressure ulcer prevention. Adelene Greene organised an excellent event at University Hospital Galway which included educational workshops and Kate Arkley was involved in raising awareness of pressure ulcer prevention within the local community. Thanks to all colleagues and companies who supported these events.



Pictured at NUI Galway (from l to r), Martina Leonard, Podiatrist, Dr. Claire MacGilchrist, Podiatry Lecturer, Prof. Caroline McIntosh, Head of Podiatry, Margaret McGrath, Occupational Therapy Lecturer and Dr. Georgina Gethin, Senior Lecturer, School of Nursing and Midwifery.



EWMA - WOUND CARE ON THE EU AGENDA

In a newly published report the European Parliament urges EU member states to implement multidisciplinary wound care and prevent pressure ulcers. Recently the EU Parliament has adopted MEP Oreste Rossi's report on Patient Safety including the prevention and control of healthcare associated infections. In the report, the EU Parliament urges member states to implement or increase measures to support multidisciplinary wound care and prevention of pressure ulcers.

EWMA has actively contributed to the work process leading up to the adoption of Mr. Rossi's own-initiative report. Earlier in 2013 a EWMA policy paper on Patient Safety and Pressure Ulcers was elaborated by the previous EWMA President Prof. Zena Moore. In May 2013 Prof. Moore represented EWMA in a workshop hosted by the European Parliament and MEP Rossi, presenting about Prevention of Healthcare Associated Infections; A presentation which stressed the multidisciplinary teamwork as well as education and training as important aspects of the patient safety agenda.

By adopting the report which specifically mentions multidisciplinary wound care and pressure ulcers, the European Parliament sends a strong signal of support for multidisciplinary wound care to the member states. EWMA welcomes this step towards the acknowledgement and increased awareness of wound care as an important patient safety concern across Europe.

Members of WMAI would like to express their deepest sympathies to Kate Arkley of the National Executive on the recent death of her Mother. May she rest in peace.

The WMAI team are always looking for good news stories on how our members are promoting the highest standards of wound management through practice, education and research. Please send your stories of your initiatives to wmainewsletter@gmail.com

EWMA 2014 IN MADRID

The 24th Conference of EWMA will be held from 14-16 May 2014 at the IFEMA, Madrid in Spain. The conference theme will be, **Innovation, Know-how and Technology in Wound Care.**

The conference will be held in cooperation with the Spanish Group for the Study and Advice on Pressure Ulcers and Chronic Wounds (GNEAUPP).



Registration and abstract submission from November 2013

Deadline for abstract submission: 1 January 2014

Early registration deadline: 15 March 2014

For more information about the conference, please visit: www.ewma2014.org

FUTURE DOCUMENTS & PROJECTS

The **Home Care-Wound Care Document** will explore opportunities and possible barriers to best practice wound treatment conducted in the home care setting. The aim is to identify a list of recommendations for the treatment of patients with wounds in their own homes. The document is chaired by Dr. Sebastian Probst.

The **Multidisciplinary Treatment Project** will promote the use of a multidisciplinary team approach to wound care and identify challenges and barriers to its use. This project is chaired by Professor Zena Moore. The project is a joined collaboration with the Australian Wound Management Association (AWMA) and the Association for the Advancement of Wound Care (AAWC) of the USA.

Both documents are expected to be published in 2014 and presented at the EWMA-GNEAUPP 2014 conference. Read more about the documents on www.ewma.org.

EWMA ADVOCATES WOUND CARE IN THE EU PARLIAMENT

EWMA is committed to working towards acknowledgement of pressure ulcers as an important patient safety concern across Europe, and to promote the implementation of the guidelines of EPUAP and NPUAP.