



**WMAI**  
Wound Management  
Association of Ireland

Quarterly Newsletter For Members

Promoting Best Practise in Wound Care



Issue 23– April 2017

*Dear Members and Colleagues,*

***Welcome to the Spring Edition of the WMAI newsletter. In this edition we hear from Professor Michael J. Trepal, DPM, FCFAS Professor of Podiatric Surgery, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, New York College of Podiatric Medicine, one of the Key Note Speakers at the 3rd Transatlantic Wound Science & Podiatry Medicine Conference held at the end of March***

The third Transatlantic Wound Science and Podiatric Medicine Conference recently held in Galway, Ireland afforded the opportunity for the approximate 300 delegates in attendance on day one to learn from a distinguished faculty of International experts on state of the art diagnostic and treatment regimens for the management of lower extremity wounds. The meeting co-sponsored by the School of Podiatric Medicine at the National University of Ireland and the New York College of Podiatric Medicine is just one aspect of an affiliation between the two Institutions that fosters the science of wound care including both research and the dissemination of knowledge to the practice community.

The importance of interdisciplinary conferences such as this one cannot be overstated in terms of disseminating knowledge that directly finds its way into treatment regi-



mens of healthcare providers directly involved in wound care. The physical, social, psychologic and economic impact of non-healing wounds across the globe is by any reasonable assessment a major and significant burden on any society, and transcends all cultural, socioeconomic, governmental and regional boundaries. While there exists a panoply of etiologies and co-morbidities associated with the development of wounds over time, by far diabetes is the number

one culprit. Given the recently published in Lancet(\*) Global Burden of Disease (GBD) report, documenting a global increase in worldwide diabetes from approximately 333 million persons in 2005 to 435 million in 2015 (an increase of 30.6%) one can quickly grasp the concomitant expected increase in wounds. The development and implementation of protocols and disease manage-

ment rubrics designed to identify individuals at risk for the development of wounds which then facilitate cost effective prophylactic strategies is both necessary and desirable if we are to get ahead of the curve and achieve meaningful outcomes. It is clear to whomever studies the issue, that when it comes to wound care, interdisciplinary care is the way to go. Necessary components of any wound care program, whether in the public or private sector must include or provide consultation where indicated from internal medicine, endocrinology, vascular, orthopedic, plastic, pedorthic, nutritional, nursing, podiatric, psychological and social services. Each discipline brings to the table unique skillsets and perspectives which blend and ultimately positively impact outcomes.

Interdisciplinary wound care meetings such as the one which occurred in Galway set the right tone and serves as a positive reinforcement for all involved in wound care.

(\*)GBD 2015 Disease and Injury Incidence and Prevalence Collaborators. *Lancet* 2016;388: 1545-602

## **IN this Issue**

**Editorial by Michael J. Trepal, Vice President for Academic Affairs, New York College of Podiatric Medicine**

**3rd Transatlantic Wound Science & Podiatry Medicine Conference - A reflection**

**Launch of the Alliance of Research & Innovation in Wounds**

**News from the Western branch of WMAI**

**Upcoming EWMA Conference in May**

**New Vascular disease module - NUI Galway from January 2018**



### *3rd Transatlantic Wound Science & Podiatry Medicine Conference*

The sun shone brightly over the fabulous setting of Galway Bay for the 3rd Transatlantic Wound Science and Podiatric Medicine Conference which was held at the Galway Bay Hotel, Salthill, Galway on 31st March- 1st April 2017. NUI Galway, in partnership with The New York College of Podiatric Medicine, The Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists of Ireland and The Irish Chiropodists/Podiatrists Association of Ireland hosted this two-day international conference.

Despite the fabulous weather there was standing room only as over 300 people attended the Wound Science Programme on Friday 31st March. There was a great national and international presence with delegates from across Ireland, the United States, the United Kingdom and Europe. The programme attracted an interdisciplinary audience with delegates from medicine, nursing, podiatry, regenerative medicine and biomedical engineering.



*Sharing the  
Vision –  
innovation,  
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new horizons’.*

#### *A packed room for the Wound Science Programme on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March*

The conference was dense with presentations and workshops by experts in the fields of diabetes, wound management, vascular disease and podiatric medicine. The theme of the conference was ‘Sharing the Vision – innovation, integration, new horizons’. Speakers on the wound science programme included:

- × Dr. Paul Chadwick, Consultant Podiatrist, Salford Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Salford, UK.
- × Professor William Jeffcoate, Consultant Diabetologist, Nottingham Foot Ulcer Trials Unit, UK.
- × Dr Paramjit Chopra, Chairman and Medical Director, Midwest Institute for Minimally Invasive Therapies and Associate Professor, Rush University, US
- × Professor Michael J. Trepal, Professor of Podiatric Surgery, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, New York College of Podiatric Medicine, US
- × Professor Caroline McIntosh, Established Professor and Head of Podiatric Medicine, NUI Galway, Galway, Ireland.
- × Dr Georgina Gethin, Head of School of Nursing and Midwifery, NUI Galway, Galway, Ireland.

A highlight of the conference was a lecture from Professor William Jeffcoate, a world leading physician and researcher in diabetic foot disease. Prof. Jeffcoate gave a stimulating and thought-provoking lecture on the need to measure outcomes in diabetic foot disease- how else will we know how good we are?



*Professor William Jeffcoate during his lecture on the need to measure outcomes in diabetic foot disease*

## DIABETIC FOOT MASTERCLASS

The Diabetic Foot Masterclass, facilitated by Professor Sean Dinneen, was a highlight for many who attended the conference. Complex case presentations were presented and a fantastic interactive discussion took place between our distinguished speakers and members of the audience.

*Professor Sean Dinneen, Professor of Diabetic Medicine, NUI Galway and National Lead for the Diabetes Clinical Programme at the Diabetic Foot Masterclass.*



## LAUNCH OF THE ALLIANCE FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN WOUNDS

On the evening of Friday 31st March Dr. Georgina Gethin and Prof. Caroline McIntosh, on behalf of colleagues across NUI Galway and Saolta University Healthcare Group, launched the Alliance for Wound Research and Innovation, a multidisciplinary, multiagency collaboration which will provide a focus for research and innovation in the field of wound care. The Galway region has one of the highest numbers of medical device technology companies in the world and in addition NUI Galway is host to CÚRAM – the Centre for Research in Medical Devices. Galway also delivers the only BSc Podiatric Medicine programme in the Republic of Ireland while the School of Nursing and Midwifery has an MSc/PhD in Wound Healing and Tissue Repair. Our colleagues have conducted world-leading research in stem cell therapies in wound healing and along with researchers/clinicians in microbiology, bioengineering, nursing, medicine and others we have a wealth of expertise in this field.

Dr Georgina Gethin, Head of School of Nursing and Midwifery, NUI Galway, said: *“This new initiative will be pivotal in the development of collaborative research to improve the lives of the 1000’s of people with wounds or at risk of a wound and help alleviate the impact on the individual, society and healthcare systems.”*



*Professor Caroline McIntosh and Dr. Georgina Gethin at the launch of the Alliance for Research and Innovation in Wounds.*



*Professor Caroline McIntosh, Mary Burke, Chairperson of the Western Branch of WMAI, Marion Cahill-Collins, Treasurer of the Western Branch of WMAI and Dr. Georgina Gethin at the launch of the Alliance for Research and Innovation in Wounds.*

**NEWS FROM THE WESTERN BRANCH OF WMAI**

We are delighted to report another successful Dermatology Masterclass which took place in Claremorris Co. Mayo on the 9<sup>th</sup> February. One of our objectives this year was to host more events around the region so it was very rewarding to have such a good turnout on the night. This event was a repeat of our previously well received Dermatology Masterclass. We were delighted once again to collaborate with Selene Daly, CNS dermatology, from sligo General Hospital and Sinead McMahon from Ovelle Pharmaceuticals Ltd who very kindly supported the event. We had 31 delegates and on the night enrolled 22 new members. Feedback was excellent and there was strong interest in the topic of excema in children and much appreciation for the enthusiasm and practical advice of the keynote speaker Selene who was inundated with questions. Sincere thanks to all in making the night a success.

Details of our next upcoming events will be circulated in the coming weeks to our members and via the website. We are in the process of planning a poster development/ research workshop for June in collaboration with our colleagues in Nuig. It is imperative now more than ever that we are incorporating the best quality evidence into our wound care practice due to the increasing burden of chronic wounds. We hope that this workshop might stimulate practitioners on the ground to better understand and engage with the research process, whether it be learning how to access the evidence, learning how to do a simple case study, critiquing a qualitative or quantitative study or developing a poster. We are open to any topic suggestions.





## EWMA 2017 Conference— Amsterdam, Netherlands 3rd to 5th May

The 27th EWMA Conference will take place from 3rd to 5th May in Amsterdam and is organised in co-operation with WCS Knowledge Centre Wound Care. The conference programme looks very promising and will consist of a variety of sessions: free paper sessions, workshops and e-posters, key sessions, focus sessions, symposia and industry sponsored symposia.

### Conference Theme

National healthcare systems in Europe are continuously changing, reorganising and adapting to respond to changing demographics and budget restrictions. This sets the context in which wound healing and wound carers must navigate to provide the best possible treatment for the individual patient. At the same time tech-

nology is rapidly developing, providing new methods and means of treatment and organisation.

The 27th EWMA conference will have its focus on the changes, opportunities and challenges provided by these continuous processes for wound management across Europe and beyond.

Therefore, the theme of the 27th conference of the European Wound Management Association is **"Change, Opportunities and Challenges - Wound management in changing health care systems"**

For those of you attending we wish you 3 exciting conference days! Don't forget to share your experiences in the next newsletter.



## Vascular Disease

Acquire a thorough understanding and in-depth knowledge of the principles of prevention and management as applied to vascular disease.

Gain the capacity to remain current and capable of exploring new interventions and approaches to the prevention and management of vascular diseases. Develop the critical reasoning techniques and problem-solving skills to reach sound judgement and engage in effective multi-professional communication. Clinical care will be considered in the context of multi-professional management, which will involve an appreciation of national and international guidelines as well as a range of strategic healthcare policies and initiatives.

### This module will focus on:

- Vascular anatomy
- Pathophysiology
- Peripheral Vascular Disease
- Carotid Stenosis, Cerebrovascular Disease and Stroke
- Aneurysmal Disease
- Chronic Venous Disease
- Emergency assessment
- Lymphoedema
- Health promotion
- Non-operative Management

### Module Facts\*

**Course Level:** 9

**Fees:** €850

**Duration:** One semester

**Apply:** [www.nuigalway.ie/pca/pca.html](http://www.nuigalway.ie/pca/pca.html)

**Application closing date:** TBC

Take this module as a Professional Credit Award (a stand-alone module) or as part of the Masters of Podiatric Medicine/ Master/ Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences (Wound Healing and Tissue Repair). (GYM71)

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