

EDUCATION CONCEPT OF AN CERTIFIED ACADEMY IN WOUND MANAGEMENT AND SKIN CARE IN THE GERMAN SPEAKING COUNTRIES

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Objectives: Today in German speaking countries we see a fast development in modern wound care. Therefore a lot of different education concepts arise. One of the first and now well established programs is arranged by a certified private academy. Purpose: We want to introduce this concept. We will explain the historical development, objectives, target group, organisation, education structure and program, curriculum, quality assessment and perspective.

Methods: In cooperation with Academy of Health Care Professionals of Austrian Health and Nurse Society, the institution was established to provide wound care education to professionals.

Results: Since 1999 more than 9.000 participants attended one of the training courses of this academy. In 4 qualification steps interested health care professionals may be educated in wound care and skin care. The curriculum is harmonized with the German Society for Wound Healing and Wound Treatment. The teaching program is arranged by about 40 international experts and is practical orientated to enable the participants transferring actual knowledge to their wound patients in a holistic and professional way. An important objective is to support the appreciation one another and teamwork between the different health care professionals in wound management. The course is first certified by TÜV Austria in Europe in this specialist area according to ISO 9001:2000. Thus it is guaranteed that the in its structure, process and result quality corresponds to current standard. Together with the TÜV Austria individual certifying are accomplished. This guarantees that according to an international set of rules of the quality assurance the voluntary, regularly and recurring training and actualization by the graduate is accepted.

Conclusion: In German speaking countries the Academy arranges a well structured and practical orientated education program concerning wound management.