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MANAGEMENT AND THERAPIES: LEARNING FROM WOUND CARE IN JAPAN

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Wound care is dramatically changed from aiming complete healing to managing the wound with the patient well-being. For instance, wound care for extensive burns is opting to take life-saving procedures initially by appropriate resuscitation, infection control and surgical intervention such as debridement and re-surfacing. In the long-term consequence after early therapy of the extensive burn, multiple hypertrophic scars around articular joints, the face or extremities are the issues of quality of the patient's life. Appropriate therapeutic modalities in the favourable timing may result in the better quality of wound healing by minimizing hospital stay and total costs. In contrast, there are certain wounds which are very intractable and hard even to control. Before 1998, there was no national survey or meeting in Japan. Historically most impacted event was the establishment of the Japanese Society of Pressure Ulcers (JSPU), which had been the leading national meeting in Japan on chronic wounds, involving various occupational sub-specialties.

Through a decade-long JSPU activity, spreading basic knowledge and skills in managing mostly bed-ridden patients with pressure ulcers, next focus on other than pressure ulcers such as leg ulcers, caused by diabetics, vascular diseases, or systemic diseases like collagen diseases is targeted.

Learning acute and chronic wound cares in Japan, innovative modalities and approaches may come along with "better care and better life", which is the main theme for 4th congress of World Union of Wound Healing Societies in Yokohama, Japan, September 2 to 7, 2012 (<http://wuwhs2012.com/>). I would cordially invite you to join this important congress.