



GNEAUPP

National Advisory
Group for the Study of
Pressure Ulcers and
Chronic Wounds

www.gneaupp.org

GNEAUPP

Grupo Nacional para el Estudio y Asesoramiento en Úlceras por Presión y Heridas Crónicas

The Spanish Pressure Ulcer and Chronic Wounds Advisory Board **GNEAUPP** is an interdisciplinary group, founded in 1994, so we are 15th years old. Its main objectives are:

- To assess the problem of pressure ulcers and other chronic wounds in our environment and to make society more aware of these important health problems in order to reduce their incidence and prevalence
- To collaborate in the genesis, discussion and dissemination of scientific knowledge to enable different professionals involved in managing pressure ulcers and other chronic wounds to develop a comprehensive care practice, based on the latest scientific evidence.

GNEAUPP is an independent institution that brings together different professionals involved in pressure ulcer and chronic wound management, but mainly nurses. It currently has around 3100 members.

Since it was formed, GNEAUPP has held a biannual Symposium. The last Symposium took place, between 12-14 November 2008, in Tarragona. The theme was "Wounds and globalization". At the same time the meeting was the first Ibero-Latin American Congress on Ulcers and Wounds. More than 1500 representatives attended the meeting from Spain, Portugal and other spanish-portuguese speaking countries.

Our next Symposium will be held, from 10 to 12 November 2010, in Santiago de Compostela. For our new symposium the theme elected is "Quality of life and Wounds". National and International speakers will be there presenting and updating our knowledge. Parallel to our symposium we will organize our second Pressure Ulcers Course (basic and advanced level).

GNEAUPP also organizes a national meeting with pressure ulcer committees and a summer school, both of which take place biannually. It also participates in academic and research activities in collaboration with various organizations (profit and non-profit).

To maintain contact with members and disseminate information within the group, GNEAUPP has set up an electronic newsletter (BIE-GNEAUPP) and a website (www.gneaupp.org). It also publishes a scientific journal, *Gerokomos*, which is one of the top three most read journals among Spanish and Portuguese speaking professionals, and among specific journals in the field. In the last issue of electronic supplement of EWMA Journal was published a range of selected papers from our journal.

In order to implement and disseminate its activities, GNEAUPP, like other scientific societies, has been invited to collaborate with all pharmaceutical companies in the Spanish market marketing products related to the management of pressure ulcers and chronic wounds.

In regard to research activities, GNEAUPP have one research prize "Premio Sergio Juan Jordán" linked to our Symposium and different projects:

- We are analyzing our third National prevalence survey. Preliminary results shows a 7,22% prevalence on hospitals, a 6,39% prevalence on socio-sanitary facilities and a 5,84% prevalence on home care settings. It seems that we have a down tendency over the years. The first national Prevalence Study was performed on 2001.
- Recently, we published on our website, the 11th technical document on Risk Assessment Scales based on a systematic review of the topic. We are finishing two more papers: nutrition and wounds, pressure relieving surfaces and pressure ulcers.
- We help people who approach us and want to start some research project focused on Wounds.

Also we have a photographic prize and you could see the last finalist on our website. ►

And finally we are performing some activities to influence politics and whole Society as:

- "El Manifiesto de Tarragona" (Tarragona's Manifest) to advice on the Pressure Ulcer problem as a public health problem. Highlight the avoidability of pressure ulcers and to reflect the need for more education and changes on the health care system related to wound care (specific units, reference professionals and prescription issues).
- "La Declaración de Arnedillo" (Arnedillo's Declaration) about the need to create a new figure, a "Reference consultant Nurse on Wound Management".
- STOP A LAS UPP (Stop to pressure ulcers). It's a poster focused on evidenced-based interventions to prevent pressure ulcers and remarks on avoidability of pressure ulcers. It' intended that Ministry of Health trough "National Quality Plan of National Health System" signed the Poster with us.

Javier Soldevilla
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