The Association for Vascular Nursing (AEEV) is the leading professional organisation in its field in Spain. AEEV was founded and registered in 1988 with the Ministry of National Affairs and accepted as a member organisation in the European Wound Management Association (EWMA) with the new name Asociación Española Enfermería Vasculares y Heridas (AEEVH) on October 2012. AEEVH has 310 members and is a non-profit scientific association.

The primary objectives of AEEVH are as follows:
- Promote and foster excellence in care related to vascular wounds, angiology, and vascular surgery.
- Provide guidance and advice to nurses on issues related to the prevention and treatment of all vascular wounds.
- Provide training and education for vascular nurses within the area of wound care.
- Provide and promote health education quality using evidence-based clinical guidelines to manage the care of patients with vascular disease and wounds.
- Cooperate and exchange with other national associations whose objectives are to improve the quality of wound management.
- Promote and support research in nursing.

ACTIVITIES
AEEVH has a working group on vascular ulcers and diabetic foot. This working group drew up the national guideline Consenso sobre Ulceras Vasculares y Pie Diabético de la AEEV, Guía de Práctica Clínica in March 2004.

Together with Grupo Nacional para el Estudio y Asesoramiento en Úlceras por Presión y Heridas Crónicas (GNEAUPP) and Spanish Society of Angiology and Vascular Surgery (SEACV), the working group drew up the national guideline Conferencia Nacional de Consenso sobre Ulceras de la Extremidad Inferior (CONUEI).

In 2006, the working group developed a national consensus about leg ulcers, which was turned into a national reference guide on leg ulcers in 2009. A register for leg ulcers (RUNEI) was created by the same associations in 2010.

AEEVH specialist members are updating the new association web-site, which will include patient educational material and sections for the different areas of the association.

CONGRESS
AEEVH has organised an annual national conference since 1988 (Congreso Nacional de Enfermeria Vascular), which is conducted in Spanish. Normal attendance is approximately 200-300 participants.

The national conference areas of interest are as follows:
- Vascular wounds.
- Diabetic foot.
- Surgical wounds.
- Wounds in primary care.
- Nursing care for surgical vascular techniques.

The next national conference will be held May 30 and 31, 2013, in Girona, Spain. The scientific program will cover the following topics:
- Three roundtables:
  - Negative pressure therapy (one case).
  - Education and health through a continuous care program.
  - Ethics of care in a budget cuts scenario.
- Two workshops:
  - Quality training in the care of vascular ulcers.
  - Basic principles of compression therapy.

In addition, the AEEVH national conference includes an exhibition of oral presentations and poster discussions. The program is available at www.aeev.net.

Our working group is designing a specific guideline for clinical research using different interventions to assess impact on patients with vascular ulcers. The aims are to improve the management of this particular issue with special attention on enhancing patient quality of life.