ABOUT AISLeC: WHO WE ARE

Founded in Italy in 1993, AISLeC (Associazione Infermieristica per lo Studio delle Lesioni Cutanee – Nursing Association for the Study of Cutaneous Wounds) is a multidisciplinary, nonprofit association.

The AISLeC Executive Committee is responsible for establishing the Association’s policies, directing its activities and approving all actions in relation to the management of the Association. The election for members of the Executive Committee takes place every three years.

Membership of the Association is open to all disciplines of health professionals interested in the management of wounds. Currently there are approximately 500 members including nurses, physicians, podiatrists, pharmacists, physical therapists, and nutritionists.

AISLeC and its members are committed to improve the quality of care provided to people with wounds, either acute or chronic, through education, clinical practice, public policy and research.

MAIN ACTIVITIES IN 2011

In 2011 our annual National Conference “Protagonists in the future: Research, clinical practice and organization for the wound care of the next century” was held in Bologna, with over 1000 participants. During the Conference, the release of the first issue of “Italian Journal of WOCN” (Il wound care basato sulle prove di efficacia), an electronic journal that can be downloaded free from our association’s website, was announced.

In line with its mission, AISLeC carried out and completed the fifth national prevalence survey on pressure ulcers: We enrolled 3,420 patients in 50 hospitals, from a total of 112 departments of medicine and 55 departments of intensive care. The results showed an overall prevalence rate of 19.52%, with a prevalence of 17.98% in departments of medicine and 28.94% in long-term care and intensive care units.

We conducted a systematic review of the literature to date and published the recommendations of the consensus conference on the support surfaces for pressure ulcers prevention/treatment.

We also published the AISLeC position document which aims to provide guidance on the assessment of pressure ulcers, with a specific focus on indices for risk assessment and tools for monitoring the healing of pressure ulcers. The recommendations were developed using the GRADE method.

WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO IN 2012

- In the Republic of San Marino we’ll hold a one day-meeting; the first of a series of in-depth and educational initiatives, focusing on the diabetic foot.
- We are going to undertake three multicentre RCTs on the treatment of vascular ulcers, pressure ulcers, traumatic wounds and burn wounds.
- A systematic review of the literature on fungating wounds is in progress with the intent of publishing a position paper once completed.
- A systematic review of the literature is in progress with the intent of updating current guidelines on the management of wounds with critical colonization and infection using silver dressings.

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