NEW WOUND MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

With its more than 10 million people the Czech Republic had an urgent need for a new Wound Management Society. The start-up of a new organisation can be difficult, and many resources are necessary. EWMA has therefore tried to assist as much as possible in the huge work laid down by the founding members. The result was that President M.D. Milada Francu and vice chairman Alena Pospisilová founded the new organisation with the official name Czech Wound Management Society in October 2001.

Not only has a new wound management society been founded with 340 members, but the Society has also managed to hold its 1st Conference. The well-organised conference was held from the 8th to the 9th of November this year, and the number of participants showed how well functioning the organisation already is: 480 participated in total. The topics were reports on the Czech Wound Management Society, the diabetic foot, wound infection treatment and wound infection prophylaxis, nutrition and wound healing and aspects of chronic venous insufficiency. There were also several workshops and a poster section.

The Society has started many projects of which one is a comparative study between conservative treatment of pressure ulcers and surgical treatment. Furthermore, the society is aiming at publishing a textbook for both nurses and physicians, as the Czech Republic is lacking a local text book on wound management.

A profound article on the Czech Republic and the Wound Management Society can be found in the spring 2003 issue of the EWMA Journal.

The Portuguese Wound Management Association (A.P.T.F.) was born due to the need felt by the health professionals in the treatments of wounds and has as its main aim the training and diffusion of news services within this area.

The Finnish Wound Care Society is a forum for multi-professional discussion and debate concerning wound care. The society also co-operates with national health authorities and, through this co-operation, contributes to the promotion of the development of wound care in Finland.