News Bulletin from NIFS

The Norwegian Wound Healing Association (abbreviated NIFS in Norwegian) is a steadily growing organisation with close to 600 members nationwide. This year’s annual meeting, which took place in February, was held in Stavanger on the Southwestern coast of Norway and was attended by 240 delegates. The main theme of the seminar was ulcers due to disturbed circulation – diagnosis and therapeutic strategies.

The next seminar will be in Oslo in February 2004, and the main theme there will be diabetic wounds.

In 2002, our annual seminar was held outside Trondheim, and covered many aspects of the sick patient with ulcers of different etiologies and treatment strategies. Two hundred and fifty persons participated in the seminar.

Our association is arranging wound treatment seminars for nurses and practitioners across the country. We have, together with the Norwegian Diabetes Association and their medical advisers, reviewed, translated into Norwegian and distributed diagnostic and treatment procedures for diabetic foot ulcers. We have also distributed material on the prevention of ulcers.

We participate in international meetings on wound care, and look forward to the meeting in Pisa. The organisation has the privilege of distributing grants from the industry for research and congress participation among its members, and we will work to supervise health personnel who wish to do research in topics related to wound treatment.

We will continue to work for better education in wound care and better care for our patients. One aspect of this is the fact that our patients with chronic wounds are charged with the costs of dressings, while for instance patients with enterostomies have these costs refunded. We are currently working with the health authorities to try to improve this situation.