The Polish Wound Management Association (PWMA) held their first Wound Management Conference as a joint meeting with the 16th Phlebological Conference in Szklarska Poreba, 4-7 March, 2004.

PWMA is one of the participating national wound management associations under the umbrella of the European Wound Management Association (EWMA). For this reason the president of EWMA Peter Vowden, past president Christine Moffat and recorder Finn Gottrup had been invited to speak at the congress during the first plenary session. Peter Vowden also chaired a workshop on ‘VLU outpatients patients diagnostics and management in UK’ in co-operation with Kathryn Vowden and Finn Gottrup chaired another workshop titled ‘From contamination to infection. Scope of treatments like debridement and use of wound healing products’. George Cherry from Oxford was also invited to perform a workshop on ‘Assessing wound morphology and predicting the healing process and dressing utilization; scheduling patients call at the surgery’.

Almost 400 delegates participated - primarily medical doctors – in this successful meeting.

The photos illustrate the introduction by Professor Zbigniew Rybak, President of PWMA and the visiting EWMA officers including George Cherry. EWMA congratulates PWMA with the successful meeting and looks forward to continuing the close and constructive collaboration.

Austrian Wound Management (AWA) held their 6th Annual Meeting in Graz, Austria 27-28 February 2004. More than 100 delegates had gathered to discuss Pressure Ulcers, which was the theme of the meeting. Quite a few commercial exhibitors were also present.

The programme focused on surgery and the use of Warm-up Therapy and different types of products in the treatment of chronic wounds including relief of pressure ulcers.

One session was centred on education and the origination of the wound area. I was invited to speak at this plenary session that also covered organisation and education of the wound area internationally as well as in Switzerland, Austria and Germany.

EWMA congratulates AWA with a successful annual meeting in Graz.