The Hungarian SEBINKO Association was established in 1996 to improve the care of incontinent people and patients with chronic or problem wounds. At the beginning its members were nurses, today it includes doctors and whole institutions amongst its members.

In the first years the main challenges were those of finding the way forward; we used the first three years to establish the aims and the mission of our organisation, and to ensure our values became known and accepted.

Our mission statement is as follows: “The aim of the SEBINKO Association is to develop a wide scope, nationwide co-operation and consensus in the fields of chronic wound prevention and treatment and the improvement of the treatment of incontinence. This we support by developing, teaching and training scientific methods”.

We are striving to reach our goals by continuous information flow through the SEBINKO publications, conferences, correspondence, training programmes, tenders etc. We are achieving our goals through wide-scale co-operation and support from professional caregivers including doctors, nurses, scientists and the medical industry who work in the field of chronic wounds and incontinence.

We support the wound treatment and incontinence treatment programmes developed by medical institutes and the development of responsible, reliable nursing care in the fields of wound treatment and healing. We place special emphasis on the importance of unified documentation and data processing and the training of institutional coordinators for decubitus and incontinence.

Our association is actively supporting the following values of professional help and care:
- preservation or reestablishment of the self-care of the patients,
- security
- minimising pain,
- infection-free surroundings,
- cost effectiveness in wound treatment. Since 1999, when these values were introduced at our first consensus conference, these values have also been supported by our associates.

A ‘big moment’ for us was in 2003 when we accepted, by consensus, the management principles of the client-oriented wound treatment process. At the heart of this consensus were unified documentation, data collection and processing, with an emphasis on decubitus.

The most important details of the consensus were the competencies of the members of the multidisciplinary team, the details and documentation of the continuous wound, and patient observation. In 2006 these were accepted by the National Health Financial Institute and made compulsory – another three years and another great moment for us!

Of the resources necessary for effective wound treatment, we find evidence, knowledge and use of different techniques, and product information and presentation by medical industry sales people as important as the training of the wound treatment team, the patients, their relatives and their involvement in the treatment. Not forgetting treatment cost-effectiveness.

Since 2003 we have built a strong relationship with the founders and acceptors of the nationwide consensus. Amongst them one can find professional politicians, members of Parliament, members of medical and nursing colleges, leaders of professional and civil organisations, health industry organisations, universities, practitioners and practicing teams.

Of our ‘Big Moments’ we mustn’t forget our annual conferences that take place in October every year. At our 10th Anniversary Conference in 2006 we identified ‘The development of clinical validity and best practices requirements’ as the professional task facing our members and us for the following year. In this the most important areas will be the development of everyday best practice, continuous evaluation, renewal of nursing research methods, and the development of training and evidence research. All the details of this work may take up to three years each before they also become some of our ‘Big Moments’!

One of the greatest moments came in 2006 with the acceptance of our organisation in to the cooperating bodies of EWMA. We believe that our organisation, upon developing its solid national base, will be able to share our experiences and learn from the international experience offered by EWMA.

Based on the above it is understandable that, for us, the 2006 EWMA Congress: Innovation, Education, Implementation was very important, and, therefore, it was also one of our great moments.