A symposium on wounds and wound management held by SumS

On October 28th 2005 SumS, the Icelandic Wound Healing Society held a symposium in Reykjavík, Iceland, on wounds and their management to celebrate its first anniversary. The symposium was attended by approximately 150 health care professionals from across Iceland.

The program was opened by one of the founders of SumS, dermatologist Baldur Tumi Baldursson MD of Össur Company in Iceland who greeted the participants. This was followed by a review on the EWMA Position Paper Identifying criteria for wound infection by infectious diseases specialist Már Kristjánsson MD. After this, Guðbjörg Pálsdóttir, nurse BSc, also one of SumS’ founders, gave a wonderful talk on local management of wounds which was followed by a lecture by yet another SumS founder, Herborg Ivarsdóttir RN on the management of venous ulcers and finally vascular surgeon Karl Logason MD gave a talk on the surgical management of wounds due to arterial blockages. Dr. Logason is also one of SumS’ founders.

After lunch, during which fruitful discussions took place among participants and industry had an opportunity to show its latest products, Annette V. Norden RN an educational specialist from KCI Medical ApS, Denmark gave a talk on a new treatment option for wound management in Iceland – Vacuum Assisted Closure (VAC). The program ended with a lecture given by ergotherapist Ulla Moe from Huntleigh Healthcare A/S on the management of pressure ulcers.

It is clear that there is a need for a forum like SumS in Iceland. Health care professionals and industry alike need a common ground at which to exchange their views, gather knowledge about wound types and management as well as hearing of the latest developments in wound dressings, specialized beds and so forth from industry.

The board of SumS is committed to its mission to enhance multidisciplinary cooperation among Icelandic health care professionals in order to improve wound management in our patients. In doing so the organisation looks to EWMA for continued professional support and to the diverse industrial companies for financial support.

EWMA values your opinion and would like to invite all readers to participate in shaping the organisation. Please submit possible topics for future conference sessions. EWMA is also interested in receiving book reviews, articles etc.

Please contact the Journal Secretariat at ewma@ewma.org