

Wound Treatment Organisation established in Ukraine



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On November 25-26th, 2010, in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, the conference "Wounds, Wound Infections and Wound Closure" was organised by the newly established Ukrainian Wound Treatment Organization (UWTO).

This association is the first in the Ukraine that focuses on wound treatment. The instigators of UWTO have worked tremendously hard establishing local sections in 15 regions of the Ukraine. In the beginning the Ukrainian association was mainly based on the initiative of doctors from various specialties but there is a clear determination for the association to become open to healthcare professionals from multiple disciplines.

UWTO has a very strong council of well-known Ukrainian physicians who have been elected to the main positions. The council is represented by Professor B. M. Datsenko as President, and Professors E.J. Fistal, G. P. Kozynets and T. Tamm as vice presidents.

During the process of establishment, several consultations took place with EWMA Council and EWMA Secretariat. The close co-operation with EWMA is due to the fact that EWMA supports local initiatives of establishment of national wound management societies in countries across Eastern Europe.

To date Ukrainian delegates have visited the annual EWMA conference in Geneva and have also participated in national meetings in Lithuania and Belarus. The exchange of experiences with neighbouring countries regarding the establishment of their own associations greatly helped the Ukrainian founders during the organising process

for UWTO. More information about UWTO can be found on their web-site www.uwto.org.ua.

The conference "Wounds, Wound Infections and Wound Closure" was organised in the Academy for Postgraduate Studies of Ukraine. The procedure of registration was finalised in the late autumn after a long arrangement process.

The conference program included three thematic sessions: *Wound Care and Debridement*, *Surgical Wound Reconstruction*, and *Modern Trends in Management of Wound and Wound Infections*. EWMA was represented by the Council Member Rytis Rimdeika, who had the privilege of opening the conference with an introductory presentation on EWMA.

The conference attracted more than 200 participants from various regions of the Ukraine, and neighbouring Belarus and Russia. Participants from numerous regions of the Ukraine presented papers and case reports from their clinical practices. In addition, round table discussions on diabetic foot issues were held by prominent lecturers from the Ukraine. The conference also featured separate poster sessions which were held in the exhibition area.

During the conference there were exhibitions of wound dressings, wound care equipment, medical devices and pharmaceutical products. Representatives of well-known international medical companies as well as local manufacturers participated actively in the exhibition and also organised concurrent sessions and workshops. The conference was followed by a welcome party for all participants. ■



Chairing persons at the opening ceremony, from the left UWTO President Prof. B. M. Datsenko, chairman of the organizing committee Prof. G. P. Kozynets, and EWMA representative Prof. R. Rimdeika



The Exhibition