EWMA CONFERENCE IN LONDON, UK

EWMA thanks the speakers, contributors, participants and industry representatives and all others who helped make this year’s conference the most successful so far. Almost 4,200 participants from 78 countries took part in the conference, including a large number of European and international key opinion leaders and industrial senior executives.

The conference provided an energetic environment in which colleagues in the field of wound management from around the world came together for more than 900 scientific presentations and great networking opportunities. The programme also included 13 guest sessions offered in collaboration with international partner associations of EWMA. Moreover, the full- and part-day streams of eHealth, Nursing in the Community, and the joint EWMA - British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (BSAC) symposium attracted a large number of participants. The scientific programme would not have been complete without the more than 800 submitted abstracts, which provided the main content for 22 free paper sessions and more than 500 e-posters. EWMA greatly appreciates the interest from clinicians and researchers who submitted abstracts for the conference!

The conference was organised in excellent cooperation with the Tissue Viability Society, and we are very grateful for the collaboration, which we are sure we can build on in the years to come.

RESULTS OF THE COUNCIL ELECTION 2015 AND CHANGE OF HONORARY POSITIONS

This year, six new members of the EWMA Council were elected by individual EWMA members and the Cooperating Organisations Board.

New Members
Elected by individual EWMA members
Sue Bale (United Kingdom)
Magdalena Annersten Gershater (Sweden), re-election
The meeting takes place 21-23 October 2015 in Copenhagen. Find the exciting preliminary programme here. To register for the meeting click here.

Georgina Gethin (Ireland), re-election
Christian Münther (Germany)
Sebastian Probst (Switzerland)

Elected by the Co-operating Organisations Board
Barbara Esther den Boogert-Ruimschotel (The Netherlands)

Leaving Members
Jan Apelqvist, Past President (Sweden)
Ann-Mari Fagerdahl (Sweden)
Dubravko Huljev (Croatia)
Gerrolt Jukema (The Netherlands)
Martin Koschnick (Germany)
Rytis Rimdeika (Lithuania)

The CVs and photos of all EWMA Council members are available here.

Honorary positions:
The President Elect, Severin Laüchli (Switzerland), took over as EWMA President. Salla Seppänen (Finland) stepped down as President and became Immediate Past President. Alberto Piaggesi (Italy) was elected as the new Honorary Secretary, taking over the position from Dubravko Huljev (Croatia).

EWMA ACTIVITIES

Extended international collaboration between EWMA, the Association for the Advancement of Wound Care (AAWC, USA) and the Australian Wound Management Association (AWMA)
During the Council meeting on 12 May 2015, EWMA for the first time had the pleasure to welcome appointed representatives of the AAWC and AWMA as official members of the EWMA Council. AAWC, represented by its President Dr. Vickie Driver, and AWMA, represented by its President Mrs. Margo Asimus, will participate in at least one annual meeting of the EWMA Council with the purpose of strengthening the sharing of knowledge and international collaboration among the three associations. Similarly, EWMA is currently represented on the board of the AAWC by its former President Dr. Jan Apelqvist.

Approval of wound care curriculum for physicians by the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS).
In Spring 2014, EWMA developed a curriculum for physicians involved in wound care with the aim of ensuring that physicians have a sufficient level of expertise to provide efficient and safe treatment of their patients. The curriculum
was submitted for adoption by UEMS and was successfully approved in April 2015. EWMA is now seeking co-operation with medical societies in Europe to establish wound healing courses as a joint activity on the basis of the developed curriculum. The objective is to support implementation of the curriculum in post-graduate activities of specialist groups. For more information, please click here.

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EWMA DOCUMENTS AND PROJECTS

Guidance document on eHealth in wound care
The document “eHealth in wound care – from conception to implementation” was published in April 2015 as a supplement of the Journal of Wound Care. The publication is related to EWMA’s involvement in the United4health project. The document was launched in a key session during the EWMA 2015 Conference and is now available for free download here.

Leg ulcer guidance document
The leg ulcer guidance document aims to support the establishment of high-quality leg ulcer management throughout Europe by identifying barriers to the implementation of recommended services and referral routes and by providing general recommendations for leg ulcer management.
The document author group had their first meeting during the EWMA 2015 Conference, which also hosted a key session on leg ulcer management and the aims of this EWMA initiative.
The final document is expected to be presented during the EWMA 2016 Conference.

Antimicrobial Stewardship in Wound Care Programme
A very popular symposium at the EWMA 2015 Conference was the joint BSAC/EWMA Antimicrobial Stewardship Symposium. We are happy to announce that we will host another similar event in collaboration with BSAC at the EWMA 2016 Conference.
All 2015 symposia are now available for online streaming here.

SWAN-iCare project
As a partner in the SWAN-iCare project funded by the European Commission, EWMA hosted a focus group at the EWMA 2015 Conference. SWAN-iCare is developing a smart device for wound monitoring and therapy. With the aim of sharpening the product specifications at a critical point in the development phase, a panel of EWMA wound experts were invited to give their independent opinion on the prototype.
Health-Related Quality of Life – the Patient’s Perspective

EWMA is planning to publish a new document in May 2017 that provides an overview of and recommendations for the use of health-related quality of life assessment tools for wound care patients.

More information about the project can be found here or by contacting the EWMA Secretariat, Julie Bjerregaard at jb@ewma.org.

Oxygen therapies guidance document

EWMA plans to publish a document on oxygen therapies in May 2017 that will provide an overview of available oxygen treatment options and discuss the use of oxygen in wound healing. The document will explore differences between the USA and Europe in the use of oxygen therapies for wound healing and the potential for increasing the use of oxygen therapies in Europe.

More information about the project can be found here or by contacting the EWMA Secretariat, Jan Kristensen at jnk@ewma.org.

EWMA CONFERENCE 2016 IN BREMEN, GERMANY

The 26th EWMA Conference will take place 11-13 May 2016 in Bremen, Germany. The EWMA Conference/Deutscher Wundkongress 2016 is organised in cooperation with the German Wound Association “Initiative Chronische Wunden” (ICW) and in collaboration with the German-speaking wound associations WundD•A•CH.

With the theme: “Patients. Wounds. Rights.”, the conference will emphasize the importance of adopting a holistic approach to the patient, as the patient is a human being with needs and rights, and thus more than a person with a wound. According to the international declaration of human rights, everyone has the right to health, implying that prevention and treatment of non-healing wounds must be available to everyone. Thus, securing patients’ quality of life is both a clinical and political responsibility. Patients’ access to wound care requires the collaboration of patients, professionals, and policy makers. It is a cornerstone of good practice in wound management and a fundamental objective of the interdisciplinary team approach.

Important dates

Registration and abstract submission opens: October 2015
Deadline for abstract submission: 1 December 2015
Early registration deadline: 15 March 2016

For important updates and more information about the conference, please visit www.ewma2016.org.

FUTURE EWMA CONFERENCES

The 27th EWMA Conference in May 2017 will be held in the
Netherlands in cooperation with the Dutch Woundcare Consultant Society, WCS. Dates and venues for 2017 will be announced shortly on the EWMA website and in future newsletters. The 28th EWMA Conference in May 2018 will be held in Poland.

On behalf of the EWMA Council, I welcome and look forward to working with all new members, who I know will contribute and bring positive energy to the Council. Furthermore, I would like to thank those who have recently left the EWMA Council for their great contribution over the past years. I am honoured to take over the position as President of EWMA, and I look forward to continuing to improve European wound patients’ quality of life in collaboration with all of our partners.

Once again, I would like to thank all of you for your great commitment and participation in the EWMA 2015 Conference in London. It is highly appreciated.

I wish you all a great summer holiday.

Kind regards,

Severin Läuchli
EWMA President

**NEWS FROM THE INDUSTRY**

**Acelity**
The Nanova™ Therapy System combines absorbent dressing with negative pressure to facilitate earlier patient discharge

The innovative design on TIELLE® Non Adhesive Foam Dressing provides superior wound exudate absorption to better meet patient needs

**Coloplast**
Taking wound management beyond the edge with the Triangle of Wound Assessment

**Hartmann**
HydroTherapy means taking a new approach to the treatment of chronic wounds, with only two steps from wound cleansing to wound healing

**Lohmann & Rauscher**
A “one-pager” explains the negative pressure therapy system Suprasorb CNP by Lohmann & Rauscher in an intuitive manner, providing a vivid reading experience.
The website for CNP recently received second place for an important web design award!