The European Wound Management Association

ABOUT

"Non-healing wounds affect 4 million European citizens every year. EWMA works to secure the best prevention and treatment of wounds to all Europeans at risk."

Advocacy
EWMA advocacy activities target the European Parliament and the European Commission as well as national authorities. Activities include:

- Monitoring EU activities and the general EU agenda and analysing opportunities for involvement, e.g. participation in hearings initiated by the European Commission;
- Establishing and maintaining contacts in the European Parliament and DG SANCO, e.g. collaboration with MEP’s on raising awareness about wound care in the European Parliament;
- Partner in the European Commission initiated in the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP-AHA);
- Participation in events and conferences relevant to our goals;
- Establishing strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders across Europe.

Projects & Documents
EWMA is continuously engaging in projects including the elaboration of documents which aim to support the implementation of the EWMA goals.

In the period 2012-2015 the following documents and projects have been in focus:

- eHealth in wound care – from conception to implementation (2015)
- Managing wounds as a team (in collaboration with AAWC and AWMA) (2014)
- EWMA study recommendations: For clinical investigations in leg ulcers and wound care (2014)
- Antimicrobials and Non-healing Wounds. Evidence, controversies and suggestions (2013)
- Debridement: An updated overview and clarification of the principle role of debridement (2013)

EWMA Journal
EWMA Journal is a membership journal with a specific focus on EWMA activities as well as the sharing of relevant news, scientific knowledge and clinical experience between EWMA target groups. The journal is CINAHL indexed and includes peer-reviewed scientific articles, reviews and clinical information. EWMA Journal is published twice annually (April, October).

EWMA membership
EWMA is a membership-based organisation open for individual members as well as members of the Cooperating Organisations.

The annual membership fee is EUR 25. If you are already a member of a EWMA Cooperating Organisation the annual membership fee is EUR 10. Please visit www.ewma.org to register.

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What is EWMA?

The European Wound Management Association (EWMA) is a European umbrella organisation, linking wound management organisations, individuals and groups with interest in wound care.

EWMA was founded in 1991. Through its collaboration with 52 national wound management associations across Europe, EWMA today represents more than 25,000 clinicians (medical doctors and nurses) working with patients suffering from acute and non-healing wounds.

EWMA key goals

EWMA works continuously to improve the quality of life of European patients with non-healing wounds. We pursue identifying and advocating the highest quality of treatment available and its cost effectiveness from a multidisciplinary point of view. We work to reach our objectives by being an educational resource for health care professionals working with wound care and prevention. We organise conferences, contribute to international projects related to wound management, actively support the implementation of existing knowledge and provide information on all aspects of wound management.

EWMA strives to be the organisation that patients, professionals, governments, health sanities, education institutions and citizens in general come to for advice, expertise and opinion about wound care in Europe.

EWMA is an important player in European and international wound care. Key activities include the annual EWMA conference, advocacy activities targeting the European Commission and other European institutions, dissemination of best practice guidance and supporting up-to-date education of wound care professionals.

EWMA works to achieve the following goals:

- Promote a multidisciplinary approach to the prevention and treatment of wounds.
- Be the overarching “umbrella” organisation under which European wound healing associations collaborate.
- Support patients to play a key role in prevention as well as in their own treatment as a central member of the multidisciplinary treatment team.
- Provide easily accessible educational resources for professionals, patients, politicians and decision-makers.
- Promote wounds as one of the major challenges for the quality of life of citizens.
- Actively promote to governments and other decision-makers that wounds are preventable by implementation of adequate prevention measures.
- Promote wounds as a major contributor to the economic burden of European healthcare systems.

EWMA activities

Cooperating Organisations & International Partnerships

EWMA has established permanent collaboration with 52 national wound care associations from 35 European countries. Together they are referred to as the EWMA Cooperating Organisations and considered the backbone of EWMA.

The Cooperating Organisations meet annually during the EWMA conference in the Cooperating Organisations Board and are responsible for electing 1/4 of the members of the EWMA Council. Joint activities include dissemination of best practices, development of projects, exchange of conference speakers and co-hosting of the annual EWMA conference.

Internationally, EWMA collaborates with an increasing number of organisations, including wound management associations in Australia, Canada and the U.S.A. and alliances such as the World Alliance on Wound and Lymphoedema Care (WAWLC), patient organisations such as Debra International and associations representing clinicians working within other areas relevant for the multidisciplinary approach to wound management.

EWMA Conference

The annual EWMA Conference attracts around 3,500 delegates and exhibitors from all over the world. The variety of participants and the fact that most key players within the field of wound management participate in the EWMA Conference makes it a unique opportunity for networking.

In addition to an increasing number of scientific presentations about the latest news in wound management the conference offers a wide variety of workshops, networking events, independent symposia and project meetings. EWMA also uses the conference to disseminate key messages of EWMA and accomplishments throughout the year.

Information about past and future EWMA conferences: www.ewma.org

Education

Improving wound management education is an important part of achieving EWMA’s goal to develop wound management all over Europe. The primary activities include:

- The EWMA University Conference Model (UCM) which offers educational institutions throughout Europe to include the annual EWMA Conference as an integral teaching and learning component of their post-graduate courses on wound management;
- Maintaining a wound management curriculum, allowing EWMA to offer consultancy and endorsement of wound management training courses across the world;
- Teacher Network: Networking and knowledge sharing between European teachers and trainers of wound care.

Evidence in wound management

EWMA works to improve the research conducted within wound management, especially with regard to providing evidence for ‘best practice’. EWMA considers high level evidence essential for the development of new treatment regimes as well as in the prevention of wounds.

In 2010 the EWMA Patient Outcome Group published a document titled ‘Outcomes in controlled and comparative studies on non-healing wounds – Recommendations to improve the quality of evidence in wound management’. The document can be downloaded free of charge at www.ewma.org

‘Point prevalence of wounds and cost impact in the acute and community setting in Denmark’ is an article published in 2013. A survey of wound related costs in hospital and community settings showed figures between 1.5% - 2.4% of total annual health care budgets.

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