



Australian Wound Management Association Inc

News Release No 3 October 2008

Highlights: AWMA Committee Meeting, 18 & 19 October 2008 held in Adelaide South Australia

Wound Awareness Campaign:

The WAC (3) sees the AWMA President and Vice President continuing to meet with prominent Australian politicians regarding wound product access. MWC are to continue political lobbying with relevant ministers and medical professionals. The petition is still growing and everyone is asked to encourage people to write or submit online. To ensure that this current campaign is successful please promote it as widely as possible and inform clients with wounds of the need for their support.

The website www.elephantintheroom.com.au will continue to be used in the current campaign.

Wound Awareness Week – 30 March -5 April 2009

Special interest groups

The committee is considering the idea of having special interest groups associated with skin and wound management which would come under the umbrella of AWMA to ensure the expertise and skills of the members are available to all interested health care professionals.

Plastic Nurses Group

AWMA is keen to pursue an association with the Plastic Nurses Group as the group was disbanded early this year. The committee believe it would be beneficial to encourage the development of a special interest group to ensure the expertise and experience of the group is shared with others and also encourage the development of new knowledge and skills.

Finance

At present AWMA's expenditure exceeds income with the exception of the profit from the Darwin conference. The new Fundraising subcommittee is actively considering ways to increase the income to ensure AWMA continues to grow and promotes the development of national standards for wound management.

Membership

It is preferable for individuals to be members of a state or territory association rather than a being a direct member of AWMA. When promoting your state or territory association please identify the advantages as there have been a number of people joining AWMA directly that are not included in the notification of state or territory activities which is unfortunate given the great education opportunities offered.

Also being considered is the opportunity for state and territory members to attend at a discounted rate education opportunities in states/territories other than where membership is held.

Wound Practice & Research – Journal of the Australian Wound Management Association

The articles from the current journal are available online and are password protected. The password will be distributed by your state or territory representative.

Collaborative Research Centres

Allison Cowin – President of the Australasian Wound & Tissue Repair Society informed AWMA Committee of the Collaborative Research Centre (CRC) initiative. The proposed wound centre is headed by Profs Z Upton and H Edwards from Wound Solutions at QUT. It is estimated that a budget of \$40 million dollars will be required half coming from government and the other half from companies and other interested bodies. AWMA has been invited to join as a supporting partner. This would give AWMA a direct say in this important initiative which includes research, education and public policy- several areas AWMA is already pursuing avidly. There would also be a sharing of profits, which run at 3-5 times investment over 5 years or more. AWMA Committee will consider this opportunity at the next committee meeting February 2009 although a commitment in principle is required before then.

AWMA 2009 Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held in Brisbane on Friday 15 May 2009. More details will be provided in the next News Release. The AWMA Committee will then meet there the following weekend.

AMWA Conference in 2010 in Perth

Plans are progressing for the conference to be held in Perth on 24-27 March 2010. As details become available you will be informed via the News Release, journal and your state or territory association.

With regards

Michael Woodward

**Associate Professor Michael Woodward.
AWMA President**