



# Australian Wound Management Association Inc

## News Release No 3 August 2009

### **Highlights: AWMA Committee Meeting, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> August 2009 held in Adelaide**

#### **Wound Awareness Campaign:**

Wound Awareness Week 2010 will actually be a fortnight, from 5<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March 2010. The first week needs to be separate enough from the AWMA conference to allow the States and Territories to stage activities to increase awareness of the public of the impact wounds have on the community and not have local experts also attending the AWMA conference.

The last week of the campaign will culminate in the 2010 AWMA Conference in Perth, including activities planned to emphasise public and professional awareness of wounds and the need to subsidize wound products. Tal Ellis will ensure this campaign is gazetted.

#### **Collaborative Research Centre (CRC) for Wound Solutions**

QUT are leading a second submission for funding to be presented in early August 2009. This resubmission is to place more emphasis on the “public good” and deliverables from the CRC. AWMA is a partner in the consortium placing the bid.

#### **AWMA Conference and AGM in 2010- Perth**

Plans are progressing for the conference to be held in Perth on 24-27 March 2010. If you are interested in presenting at the conference please submit your abstract by 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Submission is via the Conference homepage of [www.awma.com.au](http://www.awma.com.au). A number of international speakers have been confirmed providing an opportunity to hear other perspectives on wound management issues. The AGM of AWMA will be held on Thursday March 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Revision of Standards**

Hartmann has been approached to assist with funding education required to introduce the Standards. A compendium is to be written once the Standards are released, to support application of the Standards into clinical practice.

#### **APUAP**

AWMA is to provide additional funding to complete the revision of the Guidelines which will be launched at the Perth Conference. One day preconference (March 24) is to have the theme “Pressure injury” and a public forum is to be held at the end of day consisting of a 45 minute presentation followed by an opportunity to provide feedback.

#### **VLUGDC**

Second application for funding was unsuccessful. ACTWMA has agreed to provide a loan to AWMA to employ a research assistant to undertake a systematic review and to commence writing the document. The document is to be launched at the Perth Conference.

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AWMA President

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## **AWMA Structure**

All state/territory Presidents (most of whom are already on the AWMA Committee) were invited for this discussion. It was agreed by all states and territories, in response to a letter from the AWMA President, that the current AWMA structure, with a federation rather than a national body with branches, may not best position ourselves for the future, especially in negotiations with the federal government on a wound product access scheme. A tender will be placed for a body with expertise in organisational structure to produce a “green paper” on possible stronger structures for AWMA, the inherent risks and benefits of any changes, and how best to achieve any changes supported by the document. A major concern of the current state/territory associations is maintenance of existing accumulated funds, access to funds for local activities, and ensuring ongoing funding. The paper will need to address this and adequately reassure local organisations with respect to these concerns.

**With regards**

*Michael Woodward*

**Associate Professor Michael Woodward.  
AWMA President**