



Australian Wound Management Association Inc

AWMA News Release, June 2010

Highlights: AWMA Committee Meeting

19 & 20 June 2010

The AWMA committee met for their first meeting as the newly elected committee in Adelaide on the 19 & 20 June.

Wound Management Innovation CRC

The CRC has been successful in receiving funding for \$27.9m over a period of eight years. Dr Stephen Prowse is the newly appointed CEO and Dr David Belford is the Director of Research. AWMA are a major participant and have committed \$25,000 per year for three years. AWMA will be submitting a research proposal by August 2010 and looks forward to being actively involved over the next three years. The CRC newsletter is available on the AWMA website.

AWMA Conference Sydney, NSW 2012

NSW Wound Care Association is already well advanced in organising the next AWMA conference titled *Harbouring Wound Care* at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre from 18 – 22 March 2012. The organising committee are planning a very exciting program.

Wound Awareness Week - 2011

The date for WAW is from 28 March – 3 April 2011. States and territories are encouraged to start planning their activities. Saint Computer Services have taken over the *Elephant in the Room* website. AWMA are looking at different strategies to promote WAW and will investigate other PR/media promotion companies in assisting us in increasing the awareness of wounds across the public and political arena.

Fundraising is a major component of WAW and states and territories have already taken advantage of the merchandise that can be purchased through Carol Baines or the AWMA shop that has been created online. Most of the merchandise has got an Elephant in the Room theme, including the logo on the shirts.

AWMA Structure Review

The committee have been meeting via teleconference monthly. The committee consist of two representatives from each state and territory and the AWMA President, Vice President, Secretary, Membership Secretary and Treasurer (as the executive). The focus is to implement Option 3 which includes:

- A unified name/brand and logo
- Standardised member benefits
- A common website

AWMA President, Bill McGuinness is planning a *Travelling Road Show* and will visit each state and territory AGM to present *The Next Evolution* and will provide an open form for members to comment and provide feedback on the structure proposal. Bill will also improve the communication between the executive committee and the local states and territories by emailing the members directly to keep everyone informed and up to date in the AWMA structure process and its activities. The members are encouraged to provide feedback at either of the forums or by email.

Pan Pacific Pressure Ulcer & Venous Leg Ulcer forum

The Pan Pacific Pressure Ulcer and Venous Leg Ulcer Guidelines will be launched in Canberra from 15 – 18 October 2011 at The Rydges Lakeside. AWMA have contracted Conference Logistics as the conference convenors. The guidelines will be a very practical tool and a great resource for health professionals in the clinical setting. National and international speakers will be invited to attend. Please put this event in your diary.

EWMA Geneva conference - highlights

AWMA President Bill McGuinness attended the EWMA conference in Geneva, Switzerland. The theme *Get the timing right* focused on establishing the necessary wound management evidence required by the various regulatory authorities, professions and out-patients.

Many of the presentations highlighted work being undertaken to establish the incidence and prevalence of different wound aetiologies in Europe and South Africa. An additional focus for the conference was the plight of patients needing wound management in resource poor nations. John McDonald and others presented their experiences assisting victims of the earthquake in Haiti, highlighting the many challenges and solutions used.

EWMA launched a document detailing a framework for improving evidence in wound management. The paper entitled *Outcomes in controlled and comparative studies on non-healing wounds-Recommendations to improve the quality of evidence in wound management*. This paper is the culmination of 2 years work undertaken by the EWMA Patient Outcomes Group. EWMA is seeking collaboration to refine and implement the recommendations.

Preliminary discussions were held with the EWMA executive to explore collaborative opportunities. AWMA have been asked to collaborate on exploring the effective use of Telehealth in wound care. This was discussed at the AWMA meeting and it was decided that Ann Marie Dunk the new chair of the "Education and Professional Development Committee will form a working party and develop a position document by December 2010.

The meeting of the *World Alliance for Wound and Lymphedema Care (WAWLC)* chaired by John McDonald (previous chair Wound Healing Societies USA) has representation from EWMA, AWMA, Handicap International and Medecins San Frontieres. The aim of the group is to provide wound management education in resource poor countries. It was reported that the following had been achieved in 2009/10.

- Development of a web site. <http://wawlc.org/>
- The development of a manual for educators in resource poor countries, title “*Wound and Lymphoedema Management*”
- The registering of WAWLC as a not-for-profit company with a bank account in Geneva

Bill was invited as guest speaker and his presentation outlined the activities of AWMA. This was well received and generated discussion. The president of Brazil has asked that we assist the development of their newly formed wound management association. Australia was identified as a key site for coordination of activities in the pacific countries.

Standards

The revised and updated 2nd edition of the *AWMA Standards for Wound Management* was launched at the 8th AWMA Conference in Perth in March, 2010. AWMA members will receive a free copy of the Standards in their next edition of *Wound Practice & Research*. Additional bound copies are available from Cambridge Media.

AWMA newsletter

The new look newsletter *DeepestIssues* is the official newsletter of the Australian Wound Management Association Inc. and the Australian and New Zealand Burns Association.

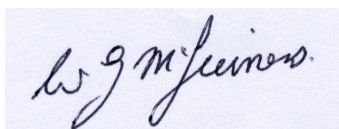
Archiving AWMA documents

AWMA are in the process of organising the archiving of important documents and files that have been collected since its conception. We are currently obtaining quotes and enquiring into different archiving systems. The AWMA committee are offering to archive documents from other states and territories. We will organise a courier collection, if you have files and documents that require archiving, please contact Judith Barker AWMA secretary at secretary@awma.com.

World Union of Wound Healing Societies - bid for 2016

The AWMA committee is keen to have the WUWHS return to Australia in either 2016 or 2020 and will bid in Yokohama (and the subsequent 2016 meeting if we are not successful in Japan). The AWMA committee has chosen Brisbane as the bid city for 2016. We will be well supported by the team from the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre and the local state committee. A/P Michael Woodward will chair the organising committee.

With regards,



Bill McGuiness
AWMA President