



## Welcome

Greetings to you all and welcome to the last newsletter for 2010!

Thank you to Aspen Pharmacare for supporting the printing and distribution of this issue.

You will notice the Tissue Issue format has been updated and now has a more refreshed and professional appearance. We still require a co-editor for the Tissue Issue and if you are interested please contact Wayne, Mandy or Rebecca to discuss.

We send our heartfelt condolences and support to our colleagues and their families/whanau affected by the recent natural disasters occurring in NZ especially the Canterbury earthquake. It is a time for many to rebuild their homes and lives, but also a celebration of life and the spirit of NZ as a nation to overcome such devastation. Lets demonstrate our collegial support at the NZWCS conference next year in Christchurch.

A merry and safe Christmas to you all.

*Mandy and Rebecca (Editors)*

## President's Report

Over the past few months it has been really great to see progress being made in the two AWMA projects that our Society has committed to being involved with. We have agreed and signed a Memorandum of Understanding between NZWCS and AWMA for the venous leg ulcer guidelines development, and in September both Cathy Hammond and Pip Rutherford attended a very productive meeting with the Guideline Development Committee in Melbourne. The Pan-Pacific Pressure Ulcer Guidelines are progressing a little slower than planned, but we are hoping that NZ can facilitate involvement of the Pacific Islands in this project. It was very exciting to read in the most recent Wound Practice and Research that AWMA has announced the inaugural Pan-Pacific Pressure Ulcer Forum and Venous Leg Ulcer Forum in Canberra on 16–17 October 2011 where they will launch both clinical practice guidelines.

To further our relationship with AWMA I again attended an AWMA Committee Meeting in Adelaide this month to hear about their current and future work, and to update the Committee on the work of the NZWCS. From this meeting there are further opportunities for collaboration, including joining forces for the wound awareness week in 2011 and working on a joint bid to host the WUWHS congress in 2016 or 2020.

Conference planning is starting to pick up as we get down to eight months to go. Things are all going according to plan and we are just waiting to on a couple of speakers to confirm.

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### Editors of Tissue Issue

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### What is the New Zealand Wound Care Society?

The NZWCS is a voluntary organisation made up of health care professionals from a variety of disciplines who share a common interest in wound management. As an organisation it gives its members an opportunity to share experience, expertise and knowledge providing a forum to network with other members throughout the country.

Currently there are fourteen branches New Zealand-wide. Each has an area coordinator and a national committee member. The area coordinator is responsible for coordinating meetings and seminars for the local branch members, while the national committee member represents each branch at a national level. In some areas these duties are undertaken by the same volunteer.

**For more information & membership forms visit:**

[www.nzwcs.org.nz](http://www.nzwcs.org.nz)

*The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the ones held by the New Zealand Wound Care Society.*

With the addition of Professor Christine Moffatt to the conference programme, this promises to be an excellent event. The Registration and Call for Abstracts are now open and you can do both online through the NZWCS website. Just look under 'Conference 2011' for more details.

As part of the conference advertising, our Conference Convener Dawn Sutton has arranged with the Editors of Kai Tiaki Nursing New Zealand to have a wound care focussed issue at the beginning of 2011.

We have invited some NZWCS members to write articles for this issue and will also be inviting a member to write a guest Editorial for the issue. This will be a brilliant opportunity to advertise the conference and also raise awareness of our society.

That's all from me. All the best and I hope you have a safe and happy Christmas break.

*Wayne Naylor President, NZWCS*

## Australia and New Zealand Clinical Practice Guideline for Prevention and Management of Venous Leg Ulcers

NZWCS members Pip Rutherford and Cathy Hammond have been working on the development of Australian and New Zealand clinical guidelines for venous leg ulcers. This project is a partnership between NZWCS and the Australian Wound Management Association (AWMA) to produce up-to-date guidance based on the best and most current available evidence. The existing New Zealand Guidelines have not been updated since they were released in 2001 and are based on a much earlier literature review.

The Venous Leg Ulcer Guideline Development Committee have undertaken a critical appraisal of the literature,

assessing papers for levels of evidence and developing recommendations and practice tips. The guidelines are now completed. They have been released for consultation and consumer feedback in Australia and New Zealand.

The final guideline will be launched in 2011 at the Pan-Pacific Pressure Ulcer Forum and Venous Leg Ulcer Forum in Canberra and will be made available online through the NZWCS and AWMA websites. To keep the new guidelines current, they will be updated on an annual basis to incorporate new research evidence.

## Diabetic Foot Ulceration Working Group (DFUWG)

Leigh Shaw, NZWCS member and a Podiatrist from Tauranga, is coordinating a newly established Diabetic Foot Ulceration Working Group (DFUWG). This group sits under our current Leg Ulcer Working Group and its aims and objectives include:

1. To develop a national assessment form based on evidenced based practice for the assessment of patients presenting with Diabetic Foot Ulceration (DFU),

2. To investigate the present forms available for DFU and produce a form/s that meets the needs of healthcare professionals at both primary and secondary wound clinics,
3. For DFUWG member/s to be actively involved in the review of the New Zealand Guidelines for the Management of Diabetic Foot Ulceration.

We will be keeping members up to date with developments from this group over the next few months.

## Regional Updates

### Area 12: Southland — Mandy Pagan

We have had the last of our six meetings for the year and utilised our three NZWCS Podiatry members to provide a practical session on the diabetic foot. This was a well executed and received session involving the discussion and viewing of inappropriate and appropriate footwear (with the assistance of our Orthotist Geoff Storm), foot assessment and excellent tips and practice cutting felt for off-loading diabetic foot ulcers.

**Right:** Mandy with our session presenters Rachel Manson, Clare Kemp and Amanda Niven



## Area 7: Taranaki — Chris Gruys

Here in Taranaki at TDHB we have made some gains in wound management/wound consumables.

We have an over-arching Wound Management Policy on our intranet under clinical services.

We have a Wound Management Product Guide which has generic consumables and brand examples matched against wound bed descriptors. The guide was designed to reduce choice, and increase awareness of accurate wound bed assessment.

We work closely with Procurement/Product Evaluation Committee to ensure a robust process is associated with the management of wound consumables.

Some of the wards have adopted “Lean Thinking” (the Toyota model) to reduce expenditure.

We have a multi-faceted electronic referral system for complex wounds, plus a Wound Support Team for complex chronic wounds, which can offer immediate electronic advice and face to face advice by way of inter disciplinary discussions at meetings.



## Area 5: Bay of Plenty — Lyn Dalton

The topic for our NZWCS BOP meeting held at Whakatane Hospital on August 10th was ‘Breast Care’. The Eastern BOP Breast Care nurse, Trish Newdick, was presenting and she had invited two breast cancer survivors to each share their story with our nurses.

When advertising this meeting we discovered that the Dargaville Girl Guides were collecting bras to try and break the ‘kids Guinness book of records’ for the longest Bra chain. We felt we could assist them and add some humour to our evening creating a positive and friendly atmosphere for our guest speakers.

The evening was a great success! We were humbled by the stories of our breast cancer patients, gained relevant knowledge from the breast care nurse and enjoyed dressing up in some very decorative bras.

Special thanks to Donna Johansson from Smith & Nephew who discussed appropriate breast care products.



*Bay of Plenty NZWCS study day attendees (and their bras!)*

## Check IT out!

### National Pain Strategy

The National Pain Strategy is the first comprehensive initiative in Australia — and worldwide — which sets out to improve the assessment and treatment of all forms of pain.

The mission of the Strategy is:

*To improve quality of life for people with pain and their families, and to minimise the burden of pain on individuals and the community.*

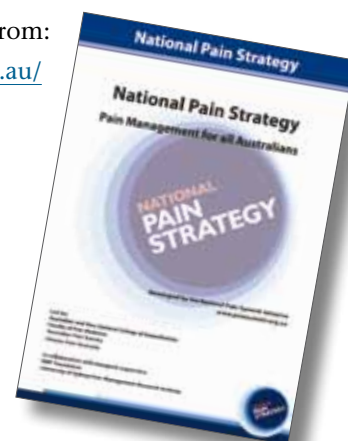
This Strategy was led by:

- Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists
- Faculty of Pain Medicine
- Australian Pain Society
- Chronic Pain Australia

The intended audiences for the National Pain Strategy are state and federal governments, funders, clinicians, consumers, researchers and research funders.

Available to download free from:

<http://www.painsummit.org.au/strategy/Strategy-NPS.pdf/>.



## Case Study – Flaminal Trial

Mandy Pagan

Flaminal (Aspen Pharmacare) is a new wound product to NZ containing alginate gel and antimicrobial enzymes that are non-toxic to cells involved in wound healing. Flaminal Hydro and Forte are available in 50g tubes and 500g tubs (for burn care). Hydro is indicated for light to moderate exuding wounds and Forte for moderate to heavy. I personally preferred the use of Forte because it was easier to manage, as the consistency was firmer and easier to apply. Flaminal can be used on different wound aetiologies and one pack can be re-used for the same patient.

### Case Study

An 88 year old type 2 diabetic with AF, hypertension and left below knee amputation presented with a neuropathic diabetic ulcer of the right great toe (>1 year duration),



Figure 1 — 19 August pre Flaminal

and no wound progress with use of antimicrobial/ anti-inflammatory wound products (Figure 1). Wound measurements: 6x3 mm (= 18 mm<sup>2</sup>) and 2 mm depth; approximately 50% slough / 50% granulation tissue and moderate exudate.

Flaminal Forte was applied and held in place with transparent hydrocolloid. This dressing was changed every second/third day. Follow up at 2 weeks found a reduction in wound depth. After two months, the wound had reduced to 4x2 mm (= 8 mm<sup>2</sup>) and 1 mm depth with 100% granulation tissue (Figure 2).

**Conclusion:** In this case the use of Flaminal resulted in both slough and wound size reduction. We continue to use Flaminal for this patient and will monitor progress.



Figure 2 — 12 October



Next Issue — March 2011 (article deadline 1st February). This is YOUR newsletter so get involved and contact Rebecca or Wayne with any questions, ideas, tips, case studies or websites of interest.

### NZWCS National Committee & Area Coordinators

**Wayne Naylor** — President  
**Pam Mitchell** — Vice President

**Emil Schmidt** — Treasurer  
**Jeannette Henderson** — Administrator

**Auckland:** Liz Milner — Committee Member & Area Coordinator

**Wellington:** Paula McKinnel — Committee Member & San Gerryts — Area Coordinator

**Waikato:** Julie Betts — Committee Member, Angela Carter & Anna Campbell — Area Coordinators

**Nelson/Marlborough:** Sue Rossiter — Committee Member & Area Coordinator

**Rotorua/Taupo/Bay of Plenty:** Diane Hishon & Lyn Dalton — Committee Members & Area Coordinators

**Canterbury:** Val Sandston — Committee Member & Dawn Sutton — Area Coordinator

**Hawke's Bay:** Leonie Smith — Area Coordinator & Committee Member

**Otago:** Rebecca Aburn — Committee Member & Area Coordinator

**Manawatu/Whanganui:** Desley Johnson Committee — Member & Ros Mead — Area Coordinator

**Southland:** Mandy Pagan — Committee Member & Area Coordinator

**Taranaki:** Chris Gruys — Area Coordinator

See the NZWCS website Committee and Coordinators page for contact details of the National Committee members and Area Coordinators.