



WCET[®] Journal

Volume 42 Number 2 June 2022

Official Journal of  The World Council of Enterostomal Therapists[®]
and  International Inter-professional Wound Care Group

Editorial

Bespoke approaches to wound management

From the President and President-Elect

Making Norma's dreams a reality - a team effort

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Original investigation

Fluid handling dynamics and durability of silver-containing gelling fibre dressings tested in a robotic wound system

Original article

Designing an effective questionnaire in wound care

Original article



Clinical outcome of injuries in people assisted in a stomal therapy nursing outpatient clinic in northeastern Brazil

Evidence summary: low- and middle-income countries

WHAM evidence summary: Aloe vera for treating burns



A world of expert professional nursing care for people with ostomy, wound or continence needs

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World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® Journal

ISSN 0819-4610

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Non-member individuals £60
Institutions £120

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY



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Publisher Greg Paull
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Design and layout Gordon McDade

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The WCET® mission is to lead the global advancement of specialised professional nursing care for people with ostomy, wound or continence needs

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Bespoke approaches to wound management

For referencing Prentice J. Bespoke approaches to wound management. WCET® Journal 2022;42(2):7

DOI <https://doi.org/10.33235/wcet.42.2.7>

Different situations often require a bespoke approach or service to address an underlying issue.

The contents of this issue, in conjunction with the Journal Supplement, highlight a variety of clinical, educational and experimental research issues with authors offering bespoke solutions.

Within the Congress Supplement, Plate identifies in his Editorial the importance of “tailoring ostomy care” to meet the needs of and improve quality of life for people with stomas. Colwell goes on to further discuss the importance of peristomal skin protection and the critical factors of correctly assessing the size and shape of the stoma when considering an appropriate pouching system to ensure an effective seal to prevent leakages. Hansen and colleagues define the term ‘peristomal body profile’ and describe how a modified Delphi approach was used to engage stomal therapy nurses’ opinions to form consensus statements on peristomal body profiling and the use of convexity post-operatively. We are most appreciative of Coloplast’s support of the WCET® in providing this supplementary information.

Hiske Smarte, incoming president of the International Interprofessional Wound Care Group (IIWCG) discusses how the IIWCG adopted a hybrid approach to host the World Union of Wound Healing Society’s Conference in Abu Dhabi in March 2022, thereby overcoming the challenges and stressors presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. These strategies ensured attending and virtual delegates reaped the benefits of all speakers’ advice.

Similarly in the President and President Elects message, emulation of such strategies to facilitate hosting of the joint WCET® / WOCN Congress in Fort Worth, Texas is alluded to.

Orlov et al, within their article ‘Fluid handling dynamics and durability of silver-containing gelling fibre dressings tested in a robotic wound system’ discuss a novel bespoke approach to simultaneously testing fluid absorbency and retention (sorption) and durability properties of two gelling fibre dressings and their interactions with secondary dressings in a simulated wound environment. The importance of clinicians having a greater understanding of these dressing properties

within both the primary and secondary dressings as evaluated and to assist with clinical decision-making are explained.

Questionnaires are an often-used method to obtain clinical information. Well-designed questionnaires assist investigators to elicit and analyse the information they require to examine, analyse, and propose solutions to ameliorate an issue. Dr John Stephenson, in his second article related to statistics, specifically addresses the use of questionnaires within the arena of wound management. He guides us to reflect on and consider inherent factors prior to and during questionnaire design. These include study sample selection; factors to be studied; formulating and scoring questions asked; how to maximise response rates; and how to refine a questionnaire through pilot processes. Following this advice, the principles of which are applicable to any wound ostomy or continence scenario, means investigators will have a bespoke tool that provides the best opportunity for them to understand the issue under investigation and devise an appropriate response.

Complex chronic wounds in Brazil, it is suggested, are a public health issue with associated financial implications. Consequently a Stomal Therapy Nurse (STN)-led wound management outpatient clinic was established in the Cariri Ceará region of Brazil. Sampaio et al describe the results of a retrospective clinical audit on wound types and wound healing outcomes of patients who presented to the STN-led wound management outpatient clinic for wound care and postulate whether this bespoke service will assist in the prevention and management of community-acquired wounds.

In low-income countries treatment of wounds in a bespoke manner is often by default due to the necessity to use locally available non-expensive materials. Haesler provides a summary of the properties, advantages and disadvantages associated with the use of Aloe vera for treating burn wounds concluding that Aloe vera presents a cost-effective management option.

In concluding this Editorial I would like to acknowledge the recipients of the inaugural WCET® Norma N Gill President’s Award recipients Paula Erwin-Toth, Sally J Gill-Thompson and Dr Diane L Krasner for their life-long and outstanding contributions to the profession.