

## Working to prevent diabetes-related amputations



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We are all aware of the growing menace of diabetes mellitus and its dreaded complication — the diabetic foot — which is known to lead to lower limb amputations, affecting patients' quality of life. Hence concerted efforts have been made in the form of awareness initiatives and educational campaigns to prevent amputations due to diabetic foot in different parts of the world. In the Gulf region, the Gulf Diabetic Foot Working Group (GDFWG) is working equally hard in bringing awareness regarding diabetes and the diabetic foot to this region. We have taken various steps in improving diabetic foot care in this region, including providing training about the prevention and management of the diabetic foot for healthcare professionals involved in the provision of foot care.

### 4th GDFC Conference in Dubai City

Our annual conference about the diabetic foot is a very popular event in our region. The last Gulf Diabetic Foot Conference (GDFC), which was held in Doha, Qatar in March 2017, was a wonderful success, with more than 900 delegates participating. Building on our success from last year, this year we are holding the 4th GDFC conference in Dubai City on 23–24th March 2018. We expect it to be just as popular as the last conference, and are presenting a huge and impressive list of international and national speakers from different continents who will share their knowledge and experience of diabetic foot

care. Healthcare professional training — rooted in the concept of a team-based approach — will be highly beneficial for our Middle East region. We have seen a rise in delegates attending from countries other than the Middle East and we hope to see more such visitors in the coming year. The GDFC is known for meeting high-level international standards, which we will continue to meet and maintain.

Our annual Global Diabetic Foot Course (GDFC) will be held in October/November of this year and we hope to see healthcare professionals who are committed to diabetic foot care and will utilize this comprehensive 4-day training course, taking advantage of lectures and workshop that can easily be absorbed into practice. This is currently the only such course on the diabetic foot in the Middle East region and we look forward to training more individuals in this field.

### Combining our efforts with the *Wounds Middle East* journal

The *Diabetic Foot Journal Middle East* is now associated with the *Wounds Middle East* journal and we believe that this combined platform will reach far more readers and health professionals, thereby improving the overall wound and diabetic foot care in the Middle East region. We are sure our readers will soon see the benefits from this new format and concept.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the GDFC in March 2018 and the GDFC in the autumn, both are being held in Dubai, the beautiful City of Gold.

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### Writing for the *Diabetic Foot Journal Middle East*

The *Diabetic Foot Journal Middle East* welcomes a range of articles relating to the clinical, professional, and educational aspects of the diabetic foot. If you have written an article for publication or if you are interested in writing for us and would like to discuss an idea for an article, please email the editor Edda Hendry: [ehendry@omniamed.com](mailto:ehendry@omniamed.com)