

Feeling the heat

Heat. Something people living in the Gulf region know all about. As I write this editorial, the forecasted temperatures for Dubai and Sharjah are to reach over 47 degrees this week — fairly normal for this time of the year, but remarkable nonetheless.

With heat comes a host of problems for our patients. Heat makes the wearing of dressings and compression garments especially, very uncomfortable. Associated sweating and moisture can disturb the balance in a wound, not to mention providing a perfect medium through which microbes and bugs can thrive. Infection rates are still high, not just in the Gulf region, but also across the world and practitioners still fight to recognise signs and symptoms. For those of you with an interest in the diabetic foot in particular, I would recommend visiting our website (www.woundsme.com) to download the consensus document on 'Identification and Management of Infection in Diabetic Foot Ulcers'. You will find it in the Consensus Document section on the right of the homepage. The document was supported by educational grants from industry and developed by the Gulf Diabetic Foot Working Group, together with a panel of international experts, and it provides clinicians in the region with a practical educational tool through which to recognise, manage and treat diabetic foot infections.

Talking of guidance documents, I am pleased to announce that *Wounds International* (publishers of *Wounds Middle East*) are currently working alongside the World Union of Wound Healing Societies (WUWHS) to produce a number of educational documents, which will be launched at the WUWHS 2020 Conference in

Abu Dhabi on the March 8–12, 2020. These documents are designed to provide global guidance, which can be tailored for use in regional or local facilities and are developed with the support of an eminent board of key opinion leaders. Over 10 of these documents have already been launched by the WUWHS and can be downloaded free from www.woundsinternational.com, including the recently launched position document on the management of skin graft wounds. The documents being produced for the Abu Dhabi Congress will be available for download in March 2020 and include: Consensus Documents:

- Optimising wound care through patient engagement — Supported by Mölnlycke Healthcare
- Wound bed preparation, using the TIME clinical decision support tool in practice — Supported by Smith & Nephew

They also include Position Documents:

- Implementation of evidence in wound care — Supported by URGO
- The role of non-medicated dressings for the management of wound infection — Supported by Hartmann

For those of you attending the conference, printed copies of all four documents will be available for you to collect; for those who cannot attend, they will be available as free downloads from the www.woundsme.com and woundsinternational.com websites.

Finally, as ever, I hope that you enjoy the *Wounds Middle East Journal*. We are always interested in receiving submissions from clinicians around the Gulf, so please keep sending them in to our editor, Adam Bushby, at abushby@omniamed.com.



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