

Wound care in a warm climate

As I write this editorial, I am sitting in our London office spending another day sheltering under the air-conditioning from the 7-week heatwave that we have so far experienced in the UK. Over the past few weeks, the national news has been full of stories relating to injuries caused by the weather: burns, insect bites, infected wounds, cellulitis etc. Some Accident & Emergency departments in hospitals are reporting levels of attendance that match the highest levels experienced in winter during the seasonal flu epidemics and these issues are also being reported around Europe.

Of course, for your region, this is all normal. I know myself, having travelled regularly to the Middle East, what the European news is promoting here as a dangerous heatwave is more like an average March or April, let alone a full blown summer. The region has long been treating cases that the West don't typically see and developing protocols and care pathways to optimise treatment in difficult conditions. Whether or not global warming is something you believe in, it seems undeniable at present that global temperatures are currently rising, with 17 of the 18 warmest recorded years occurring since 2001. If this trend continues, the knowledge and experience procured by clinicians in the Middle East will become of further interest to global practitioners as they become accustomed to treating more of the wound types that you see every day.

Wounds Middle East continues to provide a medium for the sharing of best practice and knowledge around the region. It is also attracting readership from other parts of the world, which suggests that your experiences are of value to global practitioners. We hope that you are enjoying the journal and the latest issue includes a raft of stimulating and relevant articles, from Mojtaba Senmar et al's descriptive-analytic study that was carried out in three teaching hospitals of Qazvin University of Medical Sciences in Iran (pages 6–10) to Abdulkareem Iblasi's study, which aimed to explore pressure ulcer knowledge among a sample of home healthcare staff in Saudi Arabia (pages 11–16). Ian Forrester, meanwhile, presents a general summary of the application of various forms of electricity to the healing of dermal wounds (pages 18–25), while Saqr Al-Mualla et al's article focuses on the case of a 6-year-

old boy with a congenital spinal defect who developed a pressure injury during a prolonged hospitalisation (pages 26–27). We also have a couple of great articles from Badryia Al-Lenjawi et al and Emilio Galea on seborrheic dermatitis treatment with natural honey, and chronic wounds, respectively. Finally, Saqer Al-Mualla et al present an article on a novel approach combining super oxidised solutions and laser wound healing therapy, illustrated by five cases of severely infected wounds — surgical site infection, burn, carbuncle abscess, diabetic foot ulcer and pressure injury (pages 36–41).

Don't forget too that the *Wounds Middle East* website provides an excellent array of educational documents that are designed to support your knowledge and skills in wound healing. In addition, from that site you can easily link to the *Wounds International*, *Wounds UK* and our recently launched *Wounds Asia* website and journal (www.woundsasia.com) to give you further insights and examples of best practice from around the world.

World Union of Wound Healing Societies (WUWHS) 2020 update

As many of you will be aware, in a little over 18 months, the World Union of Wound Healing Societies will be held in Abu Dhabi. I know that President-Elect Gulnaz Tariq and her team are working closely with their Scientific Faculty to develop a wide-ranging programme that underpins and supports educational understanding for not just those in the Middle East, or the West, but also for those in low-resource countries where financial constraints prevent wound care practice being provided in the way that we would expect it to.

The *Wounds Middle East* team are working hard to develop a range of educational outputs for delegates and others, enhancing the content available at the conference. We look forward to producing them for you and they will be circulated at the conference in hard copy and post-conference via electronic means from the *Wounds International* and *Wounds Middle East* websites. There are already a number of seminal WUWHS documents available to help guide you in your practice available on the *Wounds Middle East* website and we are looking to produce guidance in wound exudate and donor site wound management prior to the event in 2020. Watch this space!



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