

KWMS Guest session: Wound Management in Korea

60 WOUND CARE IN KOREA AND INTRODUCTION OF KOREAN WOUND MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

Jong Won Rhie¹

¹Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, The Catholic University of Korea (Seoul, Republic of Korea).

The Korean Wound Management Society (President Jong Won Rhie, MD.PhD) was established in 2002 with its inaugural meeting, with a vision of integrating all realms of wound care to become a leader in wound management. It has grown to become the large society it is now, with about 1,500 diverse members ranging from nurses and doctors to engineers, researchers and industrial members. Medical personnel come from diverse backgrounds; nurses working in acute care hospitals, home care nurses, intensive care unit nurses, wound care nurses, orthopedic surgeons, burn specialists, physicians working in rehabilitation medicine, dermatologists, and emergency department doctors. It conducts annual seminars, hold the Korean Wound Academy, annual pressure sore forums, dressing forums and wound education forums. The society actively publishes its conference proceedings, and also publishes the Journal of Korean Wound Management Society, a bi-monthly issue that addresses relevant topics. The society has an outreach program, and makes charity visits to those in need of wound care, unable to reach adequate medical help.

The KWMS collaborates with other societies with overlapping fields of wound care, such as the Korean Society for Diabetic Foot; where plastic surgeons, vascular surgeons, orthopedic surgeons and rehabilitation specialists meet, the Korean Burn Society; where plastic surgeons, general surgeons, and intensive care medical personnel get together, and the WOCN(abbreviation for Wound, Ostomy, Continence Nurse)s. Pressure sores are tackled together with home care nurses, social workers, nutritionists, and long term care hospitals.

Wounds, an inevitable portion of human life, may be found anywhere where there are people. The KWMS has sowed educational and academic efforts, in the hopes of decreasing total wound, enabling medical personnel to effectively manage each wound based on evidence-based treatment algorithms, and conclusively improve the quality of life for humankind.KWMS Guest session: Wound Management in Korea