

A CLINICIAN'S VIEW ON THE USE OF EVIDENCE-BASED CHRONIC WOUND CARE IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

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Speaking about scientific evidence on the health context, it is talking about evidence-based medicine and nursing, which refers to something scientifically tested or proven, since the word “evidence” implies test.

Nurses should use the scientific evidence to improve daily clinical practice and implement quality care, taking into account the best available evidence, clinical experience, patient preferences and available resources.

The vast information available both through publications and internet makes it difficult for nurses to be able to discern the best available evidence, so in recent years in the field of chronic wounds numerous clinical practice guidelines have been created, which reflect the recommendations based on evidence.

However, these recommendations are not well known or used by nurses, and it leads to a large variability in the implementation of care, which can sometimes become harmful to patients.

In a study made in the health district Pontevedra-Salnés, in 2013, 90% of nurses considered that there is variability in the treatment of chronic wounds, relating mainly to a lack of training. In addition, about 25% applies occasionally the recommendations of Galician Health Service Manual for Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers.

The integration of scientific evidence in chronic wounds management involves changing attitudes in the nursing understanding and practice.