

Editorial

Australian Wound Management Association becomes Wounds Australia

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The Australian Wound Management Association (AWMA) undertook a move to change by member resolution in 2015 from an association of geographically based wound management organisations to a single, national peak body (Wounds Australia) representing all members of the previous associations. We are pleased to announce that Wounds Australia came into effect in November 2015.

With the nationalisation of AWMA into a new entity, Wounds Australia has a new logo as well as a new look to our website and journal. Wounds Australia is poised to provide more benefits to its members, and act as the peak organisation in Australia for wound management.

Wounds Australia has inducted a Board of Directors who are busy developing a new organisational structure and strategic direction. In the medium term Wounds Australia will also be seeking to strengthen its strategic operations and business functions through the recruitment of a CEO. We are re-shaping our education, research and membership committees into national portfolios and engaging members to participate in developing member-driven strategic direction through these portfolios.

The Wounds Australia board has identified that increasing the number of education scholarships/grants available to members is an early member benefit action it can undertake. This allows the opportunity for members to have support to access more education and training in wound management than previously offered.

Wounds Australia continues with a range of projects under way, either in development, completion or review phases. International projects, in conjunction with our project partners, include the Pressure Injury and the Venous Leg Ulcer Guidelines. Nationally, projects include the Aseptic Technique Guidelines and our major health promotion project “Wounds Awareness Week” in collaboration with the Wound Management Innovation CRC. Local branches of Wounds Australia continue to hold education events and host webinars on wound practice upskilling.

How will this impact the journal? *Wound Practice and Research* is a key service and voice, not only to members of Wounds Australia but also to the region, including New Zealand, the Asia Pacific and South Asian regions. Wounds Australia remains committed to producing and publishing the journal four times a year to support the dissemination of basic wound and tissue repair research, clinical research, case studies and evidence-based practice. In collaboration with the Australasian Wound & Tissue Repair Society (AWTRS) continued support for and publication of *Wound Practice and Research* is an excellent example of how Wounds Australia demonstrates a commitment to our members, to high quality research and to the sharing of clinical views and information.

Helen McGregor
 Chair of Board
 Wounds Australia

Associate Professor Michael Woodward awarded AM at the 2016 Australian Day celebrations



We acknowledge and congratulate Professor Woodward on his most recent award of Member of the Order of Australia (AM). The award confers the highest recognition for outstanding achievement and service.

The long history of service, dedication and success in the field of medicine makes him a most appropriate recipient of such an honour. Professor Woodward is well known in the wound management world as he has served as Medical Representative, President for two terms, joint-editor of the *Journal of Wound Practice and Research*, as well as current Chair of the 2017 International Wound Practice and Research Alliance Committee and Conference. His

humour and kindness is reflected in his passion to share his knowledge with colleagues and to build confidence and capacity in others.

Professor Woodward is the senior consultant at the wound clinic at the Repatriation Campus of Austin Health and his aged care practice and speciality in Alzheimer’s has seen him research, publish and present at national and international levels.

Our much-loved and respected colleague has now been acknowledged at a national level and we celebrate this most recent achievement with him and his family.

Terry Swanson
 Nurse Practitioner — Wound Management