

Editorial

Translation of science into practice.

Wound infection is a complication that can be more than inconvenient. Depending on the person, a wound infection can impact on their well-being, income from loss of work, body image and even threaten limb or life. Millions are spent globally on treating wound infection and lives are lost each year. So how do we improve practice, how do we know what to look for, how do we understand what is happening at a molecular level that influences what we do or don't do and how much does the person with a wound influence what the outcome is? This edition focuses on these topics from the basics of wound care to hopes for future innovations in treating and diagnosing wound infection.

A summary article of the 2016 International Wound Infection Institute *Wound Infection in Clinical Practice* Consensus Document is included in this edition. Matt Malone and Annie Walsh provide a perspective on learning and gaining insight into the paradigm of biofilm.

Dr Emily Haesler, who has a wealth of knowledge in searching for and reviewing wound management evidence, and her co-authors worked with the Wounds Australia team on the literature review for the consensus document that will be released in 2017 regarding aseptic technique for a wound dressing procedure.

Malik Hussain's team provides interesting information on anaerobic bacteria in wounds, which is interesting and thought provoking. When doing standard wound cultures, we are not necessarily testing for this and is time to change practice?

A/Prof Geoff Sussman reminds us of the importance of antimicrobial stewardship in his article on antibiotic resistance. And from the USA, Prof Greg Schultz et al inform from the laboratory the latest information on biofilm and some promising research of topical agents for the management of biofilm.

Our journal watch by Dr Charne Miller reviews three articles that inform and challenge.

Clinicians still need to do the basics well. We need to take the TIME to do it right. Prevention is the key so basics such as hand hygiene, aseptic technique, therapeutic wound cleansing and appropriate topical management are the foundation to provide optimal outcomes.

Terry Swanson
NPWM FAWMA

Michael Woodward AM Joint Editor WP&R 2004-2016



This issue marks the final chapter for Associate Professor Michael Woodward as joint editor of Wound Practice and Research in a journey that has spanned 12 years, 48 issues and over 250 wound related reviews, research articles and case studies. Michael became joint

editor of what was then 'Primary Intention' in 2004, when he joined Jenny Prentice at the journal's helm and used his passion and enthusiasm for wounds to help steer the journal to where it is today.

His first editorial was titled 'Appraising ourselves of the evidence', something that we are still doing today. The premise of providing scientifically and ethically based wound management remains unchanged.

Michael's leadership ensured all Editorial Board members were committed contributors to and ambassadors of the journal. Together Michael, Jenny, Allison Cowin and the Editorial Board instigated a number of reviews of Primary Intention, which culminated in renaming the journal 'Wound Practice and Research' in 2008 to better encapsulate the

spectrum of wound management from science to clinical practice. Also In 2008, Allison took over the role of joint editor from Jenny Prentice and Michael supported and helped the journal through this transition period.

During the last 12 years we have seen the journal grow in stature and reputation and the quality of the published articles have been of great impact and interest to clinicians and academics interested in wound management. Michael's vision was always to make the journal the very best that it could possibly be and he has worked hard to raise the standard of the journal so that it can compete on the international stage as an eminent wound management journal.

Michael is a natural educator an entertaining raconteur and his enthusiasm and willingness to help others is truly inspiring. We have both benefited and enjoyed working with Michael over the years and thank him for his tireless support, his early morning emails and for being the wordsmith articulating truly memorable punchy bye-lines.

Michael you will be missed.

Allison Cowin and Jenny Prentice