

# Set your watch, Glasgow is fast approaching!

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*"The past is behind, learn from it. The future is ahead, prepare for it. The present is here, live it."* (Thomas S. Monson)

A New Year, begins at different times of the year depending on culture worldwide. For example, many Asian countries celebrated the year of the Chinese Wood Dragon on 10 February 2024, bringing good fortune and prosperity, while providing the energy to overcome any obstacles encountered. Islamic countries bring in the New Year in July, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Muharam according to the Hijri calendar. Whenever the year started for you, WCET® promises to continue to work diligently on your behalf throughout 2024. The WCET® Executive Board (EB), supporters and volunteers have gone above and beyond, giving their time and effort to fulfill WCET®'s mission, often changing obstacles into opportunities.

Dr Kathleen L Capitulo, as a new incoming EB member, will be leaving the Constitutional Advisory Panel and Miss Vesna Konjevoda, from Croatia, has joined this important panel. We deeply appreciate Dr Capitulo's work and thank her for her service. We are also grateful that she has agreed to support Miss Konjevoda during her orientation to this Panel, which is crucial for its continued success.

In striving to continue the WCET®'s mission we carry on extending our relationships with other related organisations. A congress Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with the Brazilian Association of Enterostomal Therapy (SOBEST®). We thank Dr Sonia Dantas, as SOBEST® President, and their EB for their collaboration in moving this forward.

Throughout the past year we have represented the WCET® in so many countries, virtually or face to face. Many thanks to all organisations for their kind invitations to participate and for giving us the opportunity to speak and promote our beloved WCET®. And 2024 will likely be just as busy, full of events and opportunities. We will keep you up to date via our bulLETin reports and messages. Do not hesitate to share your stories in the bulLETin and submit your manuscripts to the journal. Do not forget that our journal is the only one to be professionally translated into four languages other than English; we send our

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thanks for the financial support of Industry (Coloplast China for the Chinese translation and Calmoseptine® for the Portuguese and Spanish versions). We are still looking for a sponsor for the French translation as professional translation is very costly.

With regard to the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the WCET® International Ostomy Guideline, the first step has been to identify who we would like to be part of the core development team and how we will involve others to be active in panel or small working groups to inform the initial content and review of this edition. Under the guidance of Dr Emily Haesler as methodologist, integral clinical questions have been identified and the scoring methodology to be used has been discussed. We are thrilled to announce that both patients and surgeons will be involved in developing this edition, which will provide the opportunity to include literature that we may not be aware of and to ensure we look at salient issues from all angles; both peers' and patients' perspectives.<sup>1,2</sup>

Many thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership, with the membership year ending on 31 December 2023. For those of you who are not sure when your membership ends, you can check it out in your online profile after having logged into the website<sup>3</sup> If you have any issue getting access and/or doing online payments, do not hesitate to contact our Central Office (admin@wccetn.org). Remember, members receive benefits including reduced Congress registration fees and possible scholarships if criteria are met.

As you may know, WCET®'s next Biennial Congress will be a joint event with the Association of Stoma Care Nurses United Kingdom (ASCN UK). It will be held in Glasgow, Scotland from 28 September to 1 October. Registration is now open, do not miss this event which promises to be outstanding. Abstract and travel scholarship submissions are now closed. Applicants will be notified in May of decisions by the Scientific Committee regarding abstracts, and by the Norma N Gill Foundation® Committee regarding scholarships. Many thanks to all for your submissions, we cannot wait to see you there and hear about your scientific and clinical endeavours.

The Scientific and Organising Committees have been working hard for several months in preparing the best programme possible. Almost all keynote speakers from the cancelled event in 2020 have agreed to attend and replacements have been found for others. We have agreed that the ASCN UK will chair stoma and fistula sessions, while WCET® will chair others. Workshops will be available based on each of our tri-specialty fields.

We are excited to announce that two new WCET® Life members will be honoured, on stage at the Congress gala dinner. Also, three WCET® President Awards will be given to individuals who have made significant contributions within their specialised fields; for spreading knowledge and innovation to benefit the lives of individuals in need of stoma, wound and/or continence care. The three awardees come from three continents, representing the WCET®'s global community of ET nurses in all its diversity. Of course, the ASCN UK will also honour their prestigious members with the 'Best Nurse' and 'Best Writer' of the year award.

Additionally, scholarship recipients and new WCET® ETNET/REP directors will be acknowledged on stage. Please continue to follow updates relating to Congress 2024 on our website.<sup>4</sup>

To all WCET® International Delegates (IDs), please note you will need to prepare and submit your biennial country report by 20 June 2024. It is important to meet this deadline<sup>5</sup> to adhere to constitutional requirements, stating that reports must be posted on the WCET® website 90 days prior to our General

Business Meeting (GBM), which will be held during Congress in September.

This organisation relies on you, we cannot wait to celebrate our tri-specialty and your achievements, so stay tuned and keep watching for deadlines, as time flies.

Sincerely

Laurent and Denise

## REFERENCES

1. Graham JT & Rutherford K. 2016. The Power of Peer Support – What we have learned from the Centre for Social Action Innovation Fund. London: Nesta.
2. WHO Regional Office for Europe. 2023. Therapeutic patient education: an introductory guide. Copenhagen: WHO. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.
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## Global "A World Without Skin Tears" Day 2024

**18 April 2024**  
8:00 AM to 12:00 PM UTC-4 (Eastern Time)  
Virtually on Zoom Webinar  
[Register now at skintears.org](https://skintears.org)

### Educational Programme

All times listed in UTC-4 (Eastern Time North America)

Time	Presentation	Speaker
8:00 AM	Introduction	Samantha Holloway, MSc, FHEA, CertEd, RN (United Kingdom) <b>ISTAP President</b>
8:05 - 8:35 AM	Legality Around Skin Tears	Mary Gloeckner, MS, RN, CWON, APN (United States)
8:35 - 9:05 AM	Ethnic Disparities in Skin Tears	Dr. Laura Swoboda, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, FNP-BC, CWOCN-AP, WOCNF (United States)
9:05 - 9:30 AM	The Skin Safety Model: Reconceptualizing Skin Vulnerability in Older Patients	Dr Jill Campbell (Australia) Adjunct Senior Research Fellow National Health and Medical Research Council Centre
9:30 - 10:00 AM	Skin as the Largest Organ	Dr. Elizabeth A. Ayello, PhD, MS, BSN, ETN, RN, CWON, MAPWCA, FAAN (United States) Dr. R. Gary Sibbald, BSc. MD. M.Ed., D.SC (Hon), FRCPC (Med)(Derm), FAAD, MAPWCA, JM (Canada)
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Clinical utility and efficacy of Skin Tear Packs	Chloe Jansz, Nurse Practitioner, PHD Candidate, Healthcare United Nursing Service Director (Australia)
10:30 - 11:00 AM	Panel: Regional Directors presentation for their region	
11:00 - 11:20 AM	Skin tears in mammography: A narrative review	Dr. Melanie Stephens
11:20 - 11:50 AM	Question and Answers Period	
11:50 - 12:00 PM	Closing remarks, "What's next?"	Dr. Karen Ousey, PhD, MA, PGDE, RN (United Kingdom) <b>ISTAP President-Elect</b>



ISTAP is an official interest group of Nurses Specialized in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Canada (NSWOCOC).

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