

Advancing wound care in Malaysia and other Asian nations



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Dear Readers, it is a pleasure to be able to bring you another excellent edition of *Wounds Asia*. Although this journal was only started in 2018, we have received the good news that the journal has been accepted for indexing in Scopus (the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature: scientific journals, books and conference proceedings). This is indeed very good news and I would like to take the opportunity to thank the editorial team for their superb management of the journal and the editorial board for their contributions to the journal and reviews of the articles submitted to the journal.

Free wound care education and support for novice writers

The journal continues to be free of charge to all its readers and this latest issue, as well as past issues, are now accessible on the Wounds Asia website, where you can download individual PDFs for each article or browse through the combined, digital edition. The journal prides itself on giving unique opportunities and support to young and upcoming researchers, students and novice writers working in all wound care-related areas of medicine, nursing and allied professions. With dedicated editorial support, new authors are able to showcase their research or share best clinical practice in their workplace. Young researchers will be given the confidence and credibility to do more high-level research and clinicians can share best practice, all of which will gradually improve the evidence base and patient outcomes in wound care. Therefore, please encourage your students and wound care colleagues to submit their articles to the *Wounds Asia* Journal.

Wound care is a relatively small specialist field which is growing in momentum as more and more cases of chronic and complex wounds increase clinicians' workload. At the same time, and linked to the increase of complex wounds, diabetes mellitus is reaching pandemic proportions, especially in Asia. One of its complications, the diabetic foot often presents late and a structured multidisciplinary team approach is needed to manage these patients and prevent the need for amputation.

To help improve overall wound care standards, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Wound Council was formed last year, consisting of ten member nations. One of the highlight of this formation is the founding of the new Myanmar Wound Care Association. Its inaugural conference was held in September in Yangon, the capital of Myanmar.

Mission accomplished?

This issue will be available in print at the 16th Asia Pacific Conference on Diabetic Limb Problems and the 2nd Global Wound Conference 2019 organised by the Malaysian Society of Wound Care Professionals (MSWCP) together with the Asia Pacific Association on Diabetic Limb Problems (APADLP). By combining these two conferences, we are able to welcome more than 70 speakers from more than 40 countries. The industry support has also increased and delegates can visit 56 super and normal booths and tables. It will be the premier event in Asia. The theme is 'Step by Step, Mission Accomplished'. Every healthcare initiative, if carried out step by step and based on evidence-based medicine, will be a great resounding success — mission accomplished. In addition, wound management needs to be carried out with PASSION as envisioned by the MSWCP.

Progressing wound care in Malaysia

Another great advancement worth celebrating is the wound care management programme under the Ministry of Health for nurses and paramedics, which started this September 2019. I would therefore like to dedicate this issue of *Wounds Asia* to the late Professor Datuk Dr Jeyaindran Tan Sri Sinnadurai, the former Deputy Director General of Health (Medical) who was a pillar of support for wound care in Malaysia. He will sorely be missed by wound care professionals and the medical fraternity all over the world. May his soul rest in peace.

Finally, I would like to encourage you to conduct research in all aspects of wound care as this will improve quality of care and achieve good patient outcomes. Please continue to strive for excellence and submit papers to this Scopus-indexed *Wounds Asia* Journal. Thank you and God Bless. 