

Developing ways to improve wound care during the pandemic



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Salutations and welcome to another edition of the *Wounds Asia* Journal in 2020. It gives me great pleasure writing the editorial for this issue as we had contributions not only from Malaysia but also from India, Sri Lanka and Cambodia and we hope to receive even more submissions from all over Asia in the future.

The impact of the virus

As you know, the COVID-19 virus has caused countless tragedies and impacted all of our lives, resulting in protective measures, such as lockdowns, in many countries. In Malaysia too we are in a phase of a so-called Movement Constraint Order (MCO). The Kuala Lumpur Hospital is now a COVID hybrid hospital, which means that all other services are being continued, while we also look after patients with COVID-19 and severe acute respiratory infections (SARI). Wound management during these trying times is quite difficult as we don't know which patients might be carrying the COVID-19 virus. Local transmission has already occurred and we as healthcare professionals have to be very careful. However, we have no choice but to help the patients who need us. According to the International Working Group on Diabetic Foot (2019), every 20 seconds a foot is amputated in the world. Malaysia has a 20% incidence of Diabetes Mellitus above the age of 18, according to the National Health Morbidity Study III (Nor et al, 2008), and we need to manage diabetic foot complications even during this period of lockdown.

All patients who are seen in the Specialist Complex are screened for their temperature and checked if they exhibit any symptoms such as fever, cough and/or difficulty breathing at the entrance. The patients are then screened again at the entrance to the Wound Clinic. Social distancing is practiced throughout. Seats are spaced out and hand sanitisers are used diligently. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is worn by all staff on the frontline, including paramedics. Nurses use PPE when managing wounds in clinic as well as on the wards. Our staff have to follow the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) recommendations for PPE when managing patients under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19

and for confirmed cases in healthcare facilities by the Medical Development Division, Ministry of Health, Malaysia (2020). We also continue to manage patients with chronic complex wounds during this phase. Work goes on as usual but with proper precautions. All elective surgeries have had to be cancelled and only emergency operations were performed. However, we did manage to treat patients with diabetic abscesses and some cases of necrotising fasciitis. I understand many physicians and nurses have had a challenging time accessing and managing their patients, however, new methods are being devised and this will be our new normality until we get proper effective vaccines.

Many staff across the globe have developed pressure injuries to the face due to wearing face masks over a protracted period of time. We have to use prophylactic dressings such as hydrocolloids and other barriers to prevent pressure injury. I truly hope that all healthcare professionals, especially the frontliners, will be safe and take all the necessary precautions.

And in other news

Significantly, 2020 is also the first World Health Organization-designated Year Of the Nurse and Midwife, and the celebrations took place mostly via social media. During this pandemic, digital media has become even more important as means of disseminating information, making conference calls, arranging meetings and providing teaching online. It has also led to enhanced digitalisation of wound management, whereby wounds are assessed and treatments discussed with other professionals across the world. Webinars and virtual conferences are being organised in every region as movement is restricted and quarantines instituted in some countries. However, I hope we can go back to some normalcy after this pandemic.

I would like to thank the *Wounds Asia* editorial team, editorial board and every author who has contributed to this journal so far. I hope readers will gain some knowledge about the management of different cases, with an update on the various modern dressings and modalities available in Asia and the world. Stay safe. Take care and God bless. Thank you!

WAS

References

- The International Working Group on the Diabetic Foot (2019) *IWGDF Guidelines on the Prevention and Management of Diabetic Foot Disease*. Available at: <https://bit.ly/3fNxSfH> (accessed 14 May 2020)
- Ministry of Health, Malaysia (2020) *MaHTAS Covid-19 Rapid Evidence Updates*. Available at: <https://bit.ly/3fPLHdm> (accessed 14 May 2020)
- Nor M, Safiza N, Lin G et al (2008) The Third National Health and Morbidity Survey (NHMS III) 2006: Nutritional Status of Adults aged 18 years and above. *Malaysian Journal of Nutrition* 14(2): 1–8



Message from the Organizing Chairman

Dear family and friends, I am ecstatic that I have the pleasure and honour to invite you all to grace the 10th International Conference organised by the Malaysian Society of Wound Care Professionals which is the International Surgical Wound Complication Advisory Panel and the 3rd Global Wound Conference 2020 held in the Sunway Pyramid Convention Center, Bandar Sunway, Selangor. The conference will be held from the 2nd to the 4th of October 2020. The theme this year is quite exciting which is 'Wound Wars: May the Cure be with you'.

As health care and wound care professionals we battle with chronic complex wounds everyday of our life and we hope that we have the solution to all their problems especially to save the Limb and the life. Therefore, this theme is great in addressing that and I hope that you will be able to share your experiences and get sufficient information and input as well as good networking so that our patients who are the clients can be managed holistically and comprehensively to prevent or minimise complications.

This year we will also have the privilege of hosting the ISWCAP here in Malaysia as this is a major problem with surgical wounds. ISWCAP will be launched in March in Abu Dhabi during the World Union of Wound Healing Societies conference 2020. The international best practice document will also be launched then. This best practice document was made during the ISWCAP meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia during the 16th APDLP and 2nd Global Conference last year.

I sincerely hope that all of you will be able to gain valuable knowledge regarding wound management and strengthen the commradarie amongst ourselves. Thank you.

Take care and God Bless.

Prof. Dr. Harikrishna K.R.Nair S.I.S KMN

Chairman of the Organising Committee

President of the Malaysian Society of Wound Care Professionals (MSWCP)

HIGHLIGHTS

- * **ISWCAP Workshop**
- * **Wound Masterclass**
- * **Certificate in Clinical Wound Care Updates**
- * **Modalities Workshop**

Day 1 - 2nd October 2020

7.00 - 8.30 AM	Registration
8.30 - 9.00 AM	AWCA Lecture: Ischaemic wounds and how to manage them
9.00 - 9.30 AM	WUWHS Lecture: Pressure injury in critical care setting
9.30 - 10.30 AM	Opening Ceremony
10.30 - 10.50 AM	The value of a multidisciplinary team in prevention of complications: the toe, flow and go approach
10.50 - 11.10 AM	Coffee Break and Booth Visit
11.10 - 11.30 PM	ISWCAP Lecture: The global burden of surgical wound complications: are we closer to zero?
	ISWCAP PLENARIES
11.30 - 11.50 PM	Patient assessment and education to prevent SWC's
11.50 - 12.10 PM	Early identification & classification of SWC's
12.10 - 12.30 PM	Intraoperative measures for the prevention of SWC's
12.30 - 1.30 PM	Lunch Symposium
1.30 - 2.00 PM	Booth Visit

2.00 - 3.30 PM	1A - Diabetic Foot Complications	2A - Advances In Wound Care	3A - Vasculopathy
Symposium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Osteomyelitis in Diabetic Foot Wounds: diagnosis and surgical treatment • Deformities • Surgical vs conservative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soap as a detergent in medicine • Stem cells • Growth factors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ischaemic foot • Endovascular surgery • Bypass options
3.30 - 4.00 PM	Tea Break		
4.00 - 5.00 PM	1B - Limb Salvage Wholistic Overview Grand Rounds	2B - Revisiting Novel Therapies In Wound Management	3B - Oxygen Symposium
Symposium			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel Discussion
Day 2 - 3rd October 2020			
8.30 - 9.00 AM	Keynote Lecture - ASEAN Address		
9.00 - 9.30 AM	Immunity: The significance of vascular density in angiogenesis		
9.30 - 10.30 AM	Prevention of diabetic foot wounds - Challenges and National involvement		
	Atypical Mycobacterial Infection		
	Biofilms in SWC's: latest evidence		
10.30 - 10.50 AM	Antimicrobial stewardship in prevention and management of SWC's		
10.50 - 11.10 AM	Coffee Break and Booth Visit		
11.10 - 11.30 AM	Dermatological Malignancies		
11.30 - 11.50 AM	Prevention of high amputation in diabetic limb through community education		
11.50 - 12.10 PM	Clinical management of SWC's in community nursing		
12.10 - 12.30 PM	Multidisciplinary approach to prevention of SWC's, the ERAS protocol		
12.30 - 1.30 PM	Lunch Symposium		
1.10 - 2.00 PM	Booth Visit		
2.00 - 3.30 PM	4A - Surgical Wound Dehiscence	5A - CCWC Symposium	6A - Venous Forum
Symposium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgical Management of Pressure Injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Discussion • Updates In Clinical Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compression: A Review • New Systems Globally
3.30 - 4.00 PM	Tea Break		
4.00 - 5.00 PM	4B - Panel: Identification Of The 'At Risk' Patient	5B - Free Paper Presentation	6B - Atypical Wounds
Symposium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Discussion 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Cases

Day 3 - 4th October 2020

8.30 - 9.00 AM	Keynote Lecture: Holistic care at its best
9.00 - 9.30 AM	Negative Pressure Wound Therapy: A systemic review
9.30 - 10.30 AM	Academia vs Clinical
	Biotherapy updates
	A review of the Guidelines in the management of diabetic foot
10.30 - 10.50 AM	Wound care dressings for the prevention of SSI: 2020 evidence update.
10.50 - 11.10 AM	Coffee Break and Booth Visit
11.10 - 11.30 AM	Solutions in diabetic foot management
11.30 - 11.50 AM	Footwear in the diabetic foot - updates from around the world
11.50 - 12.10 PM	Benedetta / Topic: World Health Organisation Global Guidelines for prevention of SSI
12.10 - 12.30 PM	Wound care in the primary care setting - Physical, clinical and educated approach
12.30 - 1.30 PM	Closing Ceremony and Lunch

Registration Fees (Per Person)

MSWCP Members	Allied Health	Doctors	Foreign Delegates
RM 750	RM 850	RM 900	USD 300
Early Bird (By 1st July 2020)			
RM 750	RM 750	RM 800	USD 250

Payment is to be issued in favour of "Malaysian Society of Wound Care Professionals"

- Bank Name : CIMB Bank Berhad
- Account No. : 8000-5201-25
- Bank Address : Jalan Raja Muda Abdul Aziz, Kampung Baru, 50300 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- SWIFT Code : CIBBMYKL

Cancellation & Transfer

- If you are unable to attend, a replacement participant is allowed at no extra cost provided written notice is given prior to the conference.
- A 90% refund can be made for cancellation received in writing or by fax at least 4 weeks before the conference.
- A 50% refund will be given if cancellation is received 14 days before the conference.



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www.mswcp.org

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