

Editorial



I am pleased to see that during the period between our last issue and this one, our country appears to have taken a turn for the better, with much-needed optimism permeating various facets of our society. Likewise, there has been more optimism regarding our journal and we are seeing more research articles being submitted for publication, thereby elevating

the academic standard of this journal.

My primary goal when accepting the role of Editor-in-Chief was to succeed in getting accreditation for our journal. One of the criteria for this journal to qualify for accreditation was to have each article peer-reviewed by at least two reviewers and to do so for three consecutive years. Thanks to our enthusiastic Editorial Board, we are entering our third year where we have been doing this without fail. It therefore appears likely that we will be in a position to apply for accreditation next year.

I am also pleased to announce that this is the first issue which is accredited for CPD points. This, and all future issues, will have one article which will be followed by 15 questions about the content of the article. A total of three CPD points can be obtained per journal issue, if you are a WHASA member, by filling in the answers on-line.

In this issue we find a variety of topics, including the use of silver hydrofiber dressings in the management of the difficult problem

of toxic epidermal necrolysis. We also see how the use of negative-pressure wound therapy can facilitate the successful treatment of sternal wound infection using a skin graft. There is also the first of two parts on the increasingly important topic of quality improvement. And with oedema reduction being an all-important component for wound-healing, we also have an interesting article looking at the use of a superabsorber in conjunction with a four-layer compression system.

In this issue we also see the third paper of a series of articles published in this journal, which assists our understanding of the mechanism of action of negative-pressure wound therapy, particularly with regards to perfusion. Of all the papers in this series, this is the most frequently quoted and carries the most important message about perfusion. For this reason, we have chosen this to be the first CPD article of this journal.

Lastly, I'd like to take this opportunity to invite you all to the WHASA National Congress in Cape Town this year. It promises to be a cracker, with fantastic speakers from a variety of different specialties related to wound care, highlighting the importance of the multidisciplinary approach to wound care. Go to www.whasa.org for more details.

I hope you find this issue to be an interesting and educational read and trust that you will score full marks if you decide to take the CPD test!

Nick Kairinos