

Newsletter

April 2020

NWCSP during COVID-19

Around now, we had hoped to be sharing information about the implementation of the NWCSP emerging recommendations but the COVID-19 situation is having a big impact on health care. Many of our NWCSP colleagues have been redeployed to the clinical frontline or are supporting essential COVID-19 activity. However, even in these tricky times, the drive to improve wound care remains strong, so we are finding ways to keep moving forwards - albeit at a slightly slower pace.

Stakeholder Forums

We have now recruited over 1,200 stakeholders to the Forums. All consultation takes place through the Stakeholder Forums. To sign up, please register at www.nationalwoundcarestrategy.net

Patient Public Voice Partners

We are delighted to welcome two Patient Public Voice (PPV) Partners. Jillian Arnold has joined the Stop the Pressure workstream and Tracy Goodwin has joined the Lower Limb workstream. We would welcome more partners so will advertise again soon.

Lower Limb: Following two rounds of consultation, the [Lower Limb Recommendations](#) have been posted in draft form on the NWCSP website. It is hoped that these recommendations will be adopted by NHS England and NHS Improvement. Work is also ongoing to develop a business case to clarify the arguments for implementation for policy makers and commissioners.

The NWCSP has also achieved a [CQUIN for lower leg ulceration](#) for community nursing providers. Clinical teams eligible for the CQUIN can access more information on the NHS Futures website (email una.adderley@yhahsn.com to request access). Due to COVID-19, the start of the CQUIN scheme has been delayed to July 2020. Leg ulceration has also been included in the [Framework for Enhanced Health in Care Homes](#).

Surgical Wounds: Following the feedback from the first consultation, we are working on the next version of the recommendations for surgical wound management across primary, secondary and community services. The next draft will be posted on the NWCSP website.

Stop the Pressure: This workstream has been suspended at present, due to COVID-19. However, members of the workstream are contributing to the COVID-19 work by developing advice and information about pressure ulcer issues, including pressure damage from PPE.

The NWCSP aims to be open, transparent and responsive. Information about the programme, including the membership of the NWCSP Board, Workstreams and Stakeholder Council, can be found on the NWCSP website www.nationalwoundcarestrategy.net and by following us on Twitter #NatWoundStrat.

Education and Workforce: We have secured funding and recruited a group of leading wound care educators to develop a suite of online free-to-access modules. The first two will focus on skin assessment and wound assessment and we will be seeking clinicians to work with the educators to develop these resources.

The proposed national capability framework for wound care is being discussed at the NWCSP Board Meeting on 5th May 2020.

Data and Information: The workstream continues to develop a specification for the features required of point-of-care data-capture mobile technology.

Work is also beginning to develop a National Wound Care Output Specification for the Community Services Data System. In time, a similar exercise will be needed for HES (Hospital Episodes Statistics) data and primary care data. There are also plans to develop a National Clinical Data Standard for wound care with NHS Digital.

Work on a wound care dressing classification system suitable for use by all NHS organisations involved in the supply and distribution of wound care products also continues.

Supply and Distribution: The Supply and Distribution workstream has been suspended during COVID-19 as the supply and distribution of COVID-19 related products such as PPE must be the current priority for the workstream members.

The feedback from the recent consultation seeking information about existing supply and distribution routes for wound care products will be considered once the Supply and Distribution workstream is able to reconvene.

Research Evidence: Following the initial review of the Cochrane and NIHR-funded research literature, further analysis of the research literature is now needed but the NWCSP does not have the resource to undertake this work. NICE and the NIHR are being approached to seek support with this work but until such opportunities arise, the Research Evidence workstream will be stood down as a separate entity. Individual research evidence experts will continue to input into ongoing NWCSP work.

COVID-19

In response to the current situation, the NWCSP has developed a suite of documents to support shared care for people with wounds. These can be found on the [NWCSP website](#) along with signposting to useful online resources.

Thank you

The last few months have been 'interesting' but it is encouraging to see progress, even if it is slower than planned. As always, thank you to everyone who is contributing, whether through the Board, a Workstream or a Stakeholder Forum. Your help is really appreciated. Stay safe.

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Director- NWCSP

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