

# EWMA WOUND CARE CURRICULUM FOR PHYSICIANS

Approved by UEMS in April 2015



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*In Spring 2014 EWMA developed a curriculum for physicians involved in wound care, with the aim to ensure that these physicians have a sufficient level of expertise within the area to provide efficient and safe treatment of their patients. The curriculum was submitted for adoption by the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS), and was successfully approved in April 2015.*



### BACKGROUND AND AIM OF THE INITIATIVE

Despite the fact that patients with chronic hard-to-heal wounds are a typical, almost daily, part of medicine, they still constitute a specific challenge for the treating physician. Consequently, we believe that the essential aspects of this medical field should be familiar to all physicians, but in particular those who deal with wounds regularly as a result of their specialisation.

To optimise the treatment of patients with chronic wounds, physicians must be able to select therapy appropriate to the underlying aetiology as well as the correct local therapeutic measures. By developing the wound care curriculum presented here, EWMA aims to support these skills of the physicians involved in wound management.

### CONTENT OF THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum includes the fundamentals of the medical field of wound healing as well as information on the different pathogenetic causes of chronic wounds, clinical assessment, development of therapeutic concepts, wound prevention, and collaboration with other specialists, nurses, and health care providers dealing with this patient population. It also aims to support the recognition of the value of interdisciplinary team work with regards to optimising treatment for all patients with wounds.

This key knowledge related to the medical field of wound healing is suggested for inclusion in the broad post-graduate training programme for general practitioners, angiologists, diabetologists, dermatologists, general surgeons, plastic surgeons, geriatricians, and vascular surgeons. The curriculum should be adapted to the content of the relevant post-graduate training programme in which it is included.

### NEXT STEPS

EWMA is now seeking co-operation with the scientific societies of the medical specialities in Europe to establish wound healing courses as a joint activity, on the basis of the developed curriculum. The objective of this is to support the implementation of the curriculum in the post-graduate activities of the relevant groups of specialists.