



EWMA international
Partner Organisation

THE WOUNDCARE KIT -A KEY TOOL FOR WOUND CARE IN A HUMANITARIAN ENVIRONMENT



International organisations (such as UNICEF, HCR, ICRC, and MSF (Doctors Without Borders)) commonly use health or medical equipment kits to quickly respond to the main medical or health situations they encounter during their programmes.

A kit is a set of elements selected for a definite task and assembled in a box. It is designed to enable a quick response during emergency. It must be reliable, relatively cheap and bring rapidly all the elements needed in a definite emergency situation in settings with limited resources.

A wound care kit will consist of a box containing the basic necessary supplies needed to treat wounds at a health centre level.

The conception of the actual wound care kits used by different international organisations dates back more than 20 years and does not consider the new knowledge acquired during these last decades in wound care and wound healing.

A new wound care kit encompasses the concept of "advanced wound care" and will be a dynamic tool to:

- Provide basic equipment for wound care
- Harmonise training with a standardised list of medical goods
- Facilitate budget calculation both for fund providers and the organisations themselves
- Facilitate deployment in emergency situations
- Facilitate negotiations with industrial firms to gain the best commercial conditions

Since a little more than two years, a working group of the World Alliance for Wounds and Lymphedema Care (www.wawlc.org), has organised workshops to obtain an expert consensus on the kit content. During two workshops held during EWMA's 2013 (Copenhagen) and 2014 (Madrid) conferences and further work through the internet, an initial 42-item list was retained. From this list a second list,



WAWLC representatives presenting the wound care kit in Toronto 31 Oct 2014: From left: John Macdonald, David Keast, Hubert Vuagnat, Terry Treadwell, Eric Comte.

reduced to 36 items, was set and communicated during the 20th annual conference of the Canadian Association for Wound Care November 2014.

The next step, beginning right now, is the physical constitution of this new kit. This prototype will allow us to have a better estimate of its volume, weight and price. Furthermore, it will allow us to think of the packaging.

Next, with a partner, 15 kits will be made and sent to 3 pilot sites familiar with modern wound care (two in Africa, one in Haiti). This pilot phase will allow the necessary adaptations that will lead to a final 10-month-long test phase. At the end of this process, through the lessons gained, the definitive kit will be constituted.

Collaboration with industry is still open and will be crucial in the realisation of the kit.



For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the authors.

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WAWLC was officially launched as a global partnership encouraged by the WHO in 2009. Read more about WAWLC activities at www.wawlc.org. WAWLC is an international partner organisation of EWMA.

WALWC SESSION AT EWMA 2015

At the EWMA conference in London, a WAWLC guest session will be held with the title "Update on WAWLC Activities in Resource-limited Settings." The session will feature an update on the kit development process.

Time: Wednesday 13 May 13.45-15.00

Place: Platinum 5

Chairs: David Keast, Hubert Vuagnat

REFERENCES

1. Guidelines for medicine donations. WHO. Geneva. Third Edition 2011.
2. Kit System Management. (Managing Access to Medicines and Health Technologies, Chapter 26). WHO. Geneva. 2012. <http://apps.who.int/medicinedocs/documents/s19603en/s19603en.pdf>. [Accessed 24.06.2012]

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Kit items:

	Gauze and dressing
1	Non-woven gauze, sterile
2	Non-woven gauze, non-sterile
3	Paraffin gauze, sterile
4	Transparent polyurethane film
	Bandaging
5	Cohesive bandage
6	Under cast padding, roll
7	Crêpe bandage
	Tape
8	2-cm adhesive tape roll
9	10-cm adhesive tape roll
	Cream and ointment
10	Vaseline cream
11	Silver sulphadiazine
	Hygiene and disinfectant
12	Sterile saline
13	Liquid soap
14	Polyvidone iodine, 10%, solution
15	Alcohol gel hand rub with dispenser
	Material
16	Disposable gloves, non-sterile
17	Scalpel blade, scalpel
18	Scalpel blade, scalpel with handle
19	Syringe 20 ml
20	Disposable drapes
	Writing and paper
21	Easy-to-use wound care protocols
22	Marker pen
23	Individual patient record
24	Paper tape rules
	Waste disposal
25	Sharp container
26	Plastic waste bag