

AUSTRALIAN WOUND & SKIN ALLIANCE

# Summer **SCHOOL**

9 – 10 February 2024 • Carson Centre, Melbourne



## AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

### WELCOME AND OPENING OF THE AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL

Welcome

[Terry Swanson, Chair AWSA Board](#)

**Dr Nikki Frescos**, Vice Chair, AWSA Board

**Lisa Fitzpatrick**, State Secretary ANMF

History and Vision of AWSA

**Terry Swanson**, Chair, AWSA Board

**Dr Nikki Frescos**, Vice Chair, AWSA Board

**Jan Rice AM**, Secretary, AWSA Board

**Andrea Minnis**, Treasurer, AWSA Board

# AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

## Session 1: INFLAMMATION - Is it something I ate?

*We all know that inflammation can cause diseases or contribute to complications as well as being a normal part of the healing process, but do we really understand what happens when inflammation is out of control?*

*Let's take a deep dive into 'Inflammation' by exploring the topic through questioning:*

- *How does inflammation affect the skin?*
- *Why is inflammation such a big issue and how do we assess it?*
- *Does diet affect inflammation and inflammatory disorders?*
- *How does systemic and local inflammation influence health and healing?*
- *Does obesity influence or affect inflammation?*
- *How do we manage inflammation and the effects it has on the skin?*

CHAIR: **Jan Rice AM**, Director, WoundCareServices

### PANEL MEMBERS:

[Prof Richard Ferrero](#), Centre for Innate Immunity and Infectious Diseases, Hudson Institute of Medical Research

[Dr Peter Brukner OAM](#), Specialist Sports and Exercise Physician

[Dr Laurence Clemens](#), Rheumatologist

### ARTICLES:

- [Treat to target: a European perspective; Foley-2023](#)
- [Chronic Inflammation; StatPearls](#)

### EXTENDED READINGS:

- [Chronic inflammation in the context of everyday life: Dietary changes as mitigating factors; Margina-2020](#)

# AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

## Session 2: INVESTIGATIONS - The art and science of diagnosing

*As advanced wound clinicians, we know that one of the most important aspects of wound management is an accurate diagnosis that will guide our treatment. But how do we diagnose? Are we using the right tools? Do we really know how to interpret the results?*

*We will challenge the way we assess and diagnose our clients through questioning:*

- *How do you take a biopsy that yields the best results and where do you take it from? Better to take one specimen or multiple?*
- *Which bloods should we be ordering to detect auto immune disorders? Inflammatory disorders? Nutritional deficits?*
- *What do our pathology and histopathology results really tell us?*
- *What's the difference between a poorly differentiated SCC and a well differentiated SCC? Why does it matter?*
- *Detecting osteomyelitis: Should we do plain x-ray first then follow up with Bone scan/MRI or are we wasting our time on x-ray?*
- *Can you have normal bedside vascular results (ABPI, TPI) in the presence of occlusion?*

CHAIR: **Melinda Brooks**, Nurse Practitioner, Wound Wise Consulting & Education

### PANEL MEMBERS:

[Dr Hiu Tat Mark Chan](#), Clinical Microbiologist, VCS Pathology

[Dr Debbie Kesper](#), Consultant Physician in Rehabilitation, St John of God Hospital, Bendigo

**Dr John Frewen**, Dermatologist, Sinclair Dermatology

### ARTICLES:

- [Diagnostics for Wound Infections; Tang-2021](#)

### EXTENDED READINGS:

- [Imaging in Chronic Wound Diagnostics; Li-2020](#)

# AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

## Session 3: OEDEMA - Is it all fluid?

Auditorium

*What do you think of when the topic of 'Oedema' comes up? Compression? Stockings? Sure we need them, but do you ever think about what is actually happening under the skin, what is really causing the oedema, the effect this has on lymphatics, blood vessels and the tissue? Do you know how many conditions cause or contribute to oedema and the best way to manage them from both a medical and practical point?*

*We will discover what really causes oedema and what are the best ways to manage different oedema aetiologies:*

- *We can squeeze it, suck it, stop it, but what is best and when?*
- *What's going on under my skin?*
- *Is oedema all about the legs?!*
- *Oedema and cardiac failure? Liver disease? Renal disease?*
- *What about end of life oedema?*

CHAIR: **Gary Bain**, Clinical Nurse Consultant, Ramsay Health

### PANEL MEMBERS:

[Jan Rice AM, Director, WoundCareServices](#)

[Dr Laurence Clemens, Rheumatologist](#)

**Prof Neil Piller**, Director of the Lymphoedema Clinical Research Unit, Flinders University

[Dr Geoff Sussman OAM, Wound Care, Monash University](#)

### ARTICLES:

- [Compression therapy in peripheral artery disease: a literature review; Nickles-2023](#)
- [Swelling of legs and feet; Whing-2022](#)

### EXTENDED READINGS:

- [Drug-induced peripheral oedema: An aetiology-based review; Largeau-2021](#)

# AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

## Session 4: PAIN – The blessing and the curse

Auditorium

*Pain is defined by the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) as “an unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with, or resembling that associated with, actual or potential tissue damage, or described in terms of such damage”. Then why is wound-related pain under-assessed and under-managed?*

*In this session we will discuss current guidelines and assessment practices to challenge the way we assess and diagnose our clients.*

*Consider:*

- *The EWMA Holistic management of wound related pain: An overview of the evidence and recommendation for clinical practice. To be released in 2024.*
- *Peripheral neuropathy and the myths on pain.*
- *Does oedema, inflammation/infection influence pain?*
- *What are the enablers and barriers for the management of wound related pain?*
- *What can we do to manage pain?*
- *Can we improve health practitioner education on pain management?*

CHAIR: **Donna Nair**, Wound Consultant and Lymphoedema Practitioner, Good Wound Care

PANEL MEMBERS:

[Dr Nikki Frescos](#), Podiatrist, Austin Health, Research Development Lead, Faculty of Pain Medicine, ANZCA

**A/Prof Carolyn Arnold**, Department of Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine, Monash University

[Leone English](#), Executive Director, Faculty of Pain Medicine, ANZCA

ARTICLES:

- [Assessment of pain in chronic wounds: A survey of Australian health care practitioners; Frescos-2018](#)
- [Podiatrists' views of assessment and management of pain in diabetes-related foot ulcers: a focus group study; Frescos-2020](#)

# AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

## Session 5: SCOPE CREEP – Are you in my lane?

Auditorium

*This topic is to discuss the upskilling of the workforce of healthcare professionals. The panel will represent the disciplines of Pharmacy, Nursing and Allied Health. They will discuss what some of the advantages, disadvantages, or concerns are regarding increasing scope of practice. Find out who is doing what, what clinicians are seeking to expand into, how do they get their skills and how do the professional bodies and colleagues feel about the expansions of practice.*

*What are some of the expansions that have caused concerns over the last ten years and what do the next ten years look like?*

CHAIR: [Terry Swanson, Nurse Practitioner Wound Management](#)

### PANEL MEMBERS:

**Leanne Boase**, Chief Executive Officer, Australian College of Nurse Practitioners

**Dr Michelle Gibb**, Nurse Practitioner, Wound Specialist Services

**Lori-Anne Sharp**, Federal Assistant Secretary, Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation

**Dr Geoff Sussman OAM**, Wound Care, Monash University

**Stephen Tucker**, Associate Director Allied Health: Podiatry and Orthotics; Allied Health Admin, Northern Health

### ARTICLES:

- [AMA submission to Unleashing the potential of our workforce – Scope of Practice Review; AMA-2023](#)

### EXTENDED READINGS:

- [Responses to “Who should assess and stage pressure injuries in hospitalized patients?”; Bain, Michael-2023](#)
- [Unleashing the potential of our health workforce – Scope of practice review; Issues paper 1-2024](#)
- [Scope of practice and capabilities of nurses; Nursing and Midwifery Board-2022](#)
- [A study investigating the perceptions of staff, patients and relatives in relation to healthcare assistants performing wound care in a hospice setting; Cornish-2020](#)

# AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

## Session 6: INFECTION – Are my eyes accurate?

### *Infection: Why is infection such a challenge in the treatment of chronic wounds*

*A panel of experts in the field of wound infection will discuss identification, advances in technologies and validation of symptoms. Treatment strategies will be discussed and the evidence behind them.*

- *What do we really know about biofilm and are they all bad?*
- *We understand that antibiotics are being overprescribed but how can we be a champion for change?*
- *Know the difference between inflammation vs infection?*
- *What is red leg syndrome?*
- *What is red and white maceration and why is it harmful?*
- *Is the wheel turning should some of the old therapies return?*

CHAIR: **Donna Larsen**, Nurse Practitioner, Royal Perth Hospital

### PANEL MEMBERS:

[Prof Paul Johnson](#), Infectious Diseases Physician, Austin Health & University of Melbourne

[Dr Geoff Sussman OAM](#), Wound Care, Monash University

**Terry Swanson**, Nurse Practitioner Wound Management

### ARTICLES:

- [Challenges in the management of chronic wound infections; Falcone-2019](#)
- [Skin Microbiota and its Interplay with Wound Healing; TomicCanic-2020](#)
- [Effect of topical antibiotics on the prevention and management of wound infections: A meta-analysis; Zhang-2023](#)

### EXTENDED READINGS:

- [A step-by-step approach to identifying and managing Wound Infection; Welsh Wound Innovation poster v4](#)
- [International Wound Infection Institute, Wound Infection in Clinical Practice, Principles of Best Practice; 2022](#)

# AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

## Session 7: HIGH RISK FOOT VS LIMB – Are we assessing and treating the full problem?

Auditorium

*How do you assess the lower limb? How much do you rely on 'test results? Does the presence of a foot pulse indicate adequate blood supply to heal a wound? Are we conducting correct assessment techniques and are we consistent? How subjective is our interpretation of test results and what can we do better?*

*In this session we will discuss current guidelines and assessment practices to challenge the way we assess and diagnose our clients.*

*Consider:*

- *ABI and TP are within normal limits: does this mean arterial supply is ok?*
- *How do you know which vessel you are studying?*
- *When we talk about small blood vessels and their growth, how long does this process take? Does oedema influence small vessel growth?*
- *Procedural intervention for venous insufficiency is becoming more common - why and are the outcomes long lasting?*
- *Is there such as thing as a straight forward venous leg ulcer?*
- *Is the monofilament a true assessment of peripheral diabetes neuropathy?*
- *Does foot structure and mechanics impact wound healing of the foot and lower limb?*

CHAIR: **Dr Nikki Frescos**, Podiatrist, Austin Health, Research Development Lead, Faculty of Pain Medicine, ANZCA

PANEL MEMBERS:

**Dr Michelle Kaminski**, Podiatry Research Lead, Monash Health

**Martin Forbes**, Vascular Sonographer, Bendigo

**Andrea Minnis**, Nurse Practitioner Wound Management

**Mr Shrikanth Rangarajan (Raj)**, Vascular, Endovascular and Renal Access Surgeon, Yarra Vascular Surgeons

ARTICLES:

- [Effectiveness of bedside investigations to diagnose peripheral artery disease among people with diabetes mellitus: A systematic review; Chuter-2023](#)
- [Diagnostic accuracy of the 5.07 monofilament test for diabetes polyneuropathy: influence of age, sex, neuropathic pain and neuropathy severity; Dunker-2023](#)

EXTENDED READINGS:

- [Reliability of bedside tests for diagnosing peripheral arterial disease in patients prone to medial arterial calcification: A systematic review; Brouwers-2002](#)
- [IWGDFU 2023 guidelines](#)



## AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

### Session 8: PRESSURE INJURY / INCONTINENCE ACQUIRED DERMATITIS – Why is it so difficult?

Auditorium

*If a large percentage of pressure injuries are preventable, why are they still happening? How does IAD affect the skin and why is this still often mistaken for a pressure injury?*

*In this session we will talk to leaders in the field of pressure injury and IAD to find out what is really happening at the skin surface and in the tissues beneath, and what are we missing?*

- *Should we have an unavoidable pressure injury classification?*
- *Does Kennedy Ulcer classification fit within the models we currently have, and should this be adopted? How does it differ from a deep tissue pressure injury?*
- *How can we teach pressure injury prevention better to get the message across?*
- *How can we make it easier to choose the right support surface?*
- *How do we manage IAD and reduce risk?*
- *Is classifying IAD straight forward or is there something more?*

CHAIR: **Aiwei Foster**, Clinical Nurse Consultant, Melbourne Health

#### PANEL MEMBERS:

**Prof Keryln Carville**, Primary Health Care and Community Nursing, Silver Chain Group and Curtin University

[Ann Marie Dunk](#), Clinical Nurse Consultant, Canberra Health Service

[Catherine Young](#), Occupational Therapist, Odyssey Consulting

#### ARTICLES:

- [A clinical guide to pelvic skin assessment; Campbell-2020](#)
- [Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers/Injuries: Clinical Practice Guideline; The International Guideline-2019](#)

## AWSA SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

### Session 9: ETHICS, EVIDENCE, INDUSTRY – translating this to the real world.

High quality wound care is performed by health professionals within the context of evidence-based practice and an ethical practice framework. Contemporary healthcare must be delivered within the bounds of legislation, regulation, codes of conduct and local policies. How do we navigate this landscape to bring evidence-based practice to our patients? What role does industry play in bringing care options to people with a wound? In this session we will discuss standards of practice and delivering ethical, evidence-based wound practice in contemporary wound practice settings. Consider:

- What are the responsibilities of wound professionals in delivering evidence-based care?
- What moral and ethical dilemmas have you faced, and how did you overcome the challenges?
- What are the links between research and professional integrity?
- What constitutes consent and what are our legal obligations?
- Do ethical concerns influence the uptake of opportunities to be involved in industry-driven research?
- What are some of the challenges of bringing new wound products into Australia?
- What makes a conflict of interest or ethical dilemma? As professionals, how do we interact with industry? Can we talk with industry representatives or accept sponsorships?
- Should we consider the environmental impact of wound products? Is this an area that industry is addressing?

CHAIR: [Dr Emily Haesler, Adjunct Professor, Curtin University, Adjunct Associate Professor, La Trobe University](#)

#### PANEL MEMBERS:

**Margo Asimus**, Nurse Practitioner, Wound Education Pty Ltd

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**Prof Keryln Carville**, Primary Health Care and Community Nursing, Silver Chain Group and Curtin University

**Judy Haviland**, Director, Judy Haviland Consultancy

**Lachlan Singe**, Personal Injury Lawyer, Arnold Dallas McPherson Lawyers

#### ARTICLES:

- [Understanding the development of advanced wound care in the UK: Interdisciplinary perspectives on care, cure and innovation; Madden-2019](#)

### Session 10: WHERE TO FROM HERE?

#### PANEL MEMBERS:

[Terry Swanson](#), Chair, AWSA Board

**Dr Nikki Frescos**, Vice Chair, AWSA Board

**Jan Rice AM**, Secretary, AWSA Board

**Andrea Minnis**, Treasurer, AWSA Board

**Dr Emily Haesler**, AWSA Faculty

**Dr Geoff Sussman OAM**, AWSA Faculty