

Overview on WAWLC activities during 2011

WAWLC

World Alliance
on Wound and
Lymphoedema Care



Dr. David Keast,
President of
WAWLC

The annual meeting of the World Alliance on Wound and Lymphoedema Care (WAWLC) took place in Geneva on the 17-18 Nov 2011.

Amongst other activities during the meeting, the following report on WAWLC activities during 2011 was presented by Dr. Terry Treadwell, Chair of the WAWLC Programme Development Committee.

- Cameroun: A Buruli day took place at the University of Yaoundé in early Nov 2011 with the participation of the Healthcare Secretary. On this occasion it was decided to create two modular courses on A) Buruli Ulcers and B) General Wound Care.

Cameroun: A partnership has been established between the Yaoundé University and the medical faculty of the University of Geneva. Faculty people from Cameroun will be invited by MSF to participate in the EWMA 2012 confer-

ence and learn more about wounds and also network with European participants.

Cameroun: The Buruli treatment facility in Akonolinga will start to offer general wound care. Home-based care will be introduced as the hospital does not have space for more than 60 in-patients and patients prefer to stay at home to attend school and working activities.

- Ethiopia: A working programme on Eradication of Podoconiosis in Ethiopia was initiated by Robyn Björk, who carried out an initial field visit in July 2011, in conjunction with the "Mossy Foot Project".

WAWLC has been invited to provide a speaker for the annual Medical Meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in February, 2012. Dr. Tom Serena will present one or two wound care talks on behalf of WAWLC at the meeting.



On request of the Ministry of Health of Kuwait, WAWLC and EWMA representatives visited wound care representatives from Kuwait.

It is hoped that a follow-up visit will result in a wound centre being opened at the Black Lion Hospital. Training of the physicians and staff will be done by WAWLC with all costs expected to be paid by the Black Lion Hospital/ Ethiopian Ministry of Health.

The WAWLC activities on Podoconiosis were during the EWMA 2011 Brussels conference supported by a fundraising campaign.

- Ghana: An additional visit to Accra, the site of two previous training programmes, has been made by John Macdonald and Terry Treadwell, who visited the Amasaman Health Centre in Ghana to initiate a clinical research project regarding the treatment of Buruli Ulcer. The project is progressing slowly and another visit to the site is planned for December, 2011.
- Haiti: Terry Treadwell was invited to teach a two day wound care seminar at the Hôpital de L'Université d'État d'Haiti in June, 2011. Over 60 physicians and nurses attended the course. Two additional one day courses were taught at medical schools in Port-au-Prince covering the basics of wound care.

Agreements were reached with the hospital administration to help them open a wound centre at that hospital. The wound care programme is now up and running after hiring Dr. Francius Adler, a Haitian general surgeon who received wound care training at the Institute for Advanced Wound Care in Montgomery, Alabama with Terry Treadwell in May and June, 2011. Approximately 40 wound patients per day are seen at the facility.

Finally, John Macdonald has been appointed Medical Director of the Wound Care Programme at the Mevs Hospital in Port-au-Prince, Haiti and will, in the future, work one week per month in Port-au-Prince.

- South Africa: Collaboration on outreach to one region is being discussed with Liezl Naude.
- The Kuwait programme was initiated by John Macdonald, Henrik J. Nielsen and David Keast in September 2011 with a site visit and presentation of a proposal for an education programme and establishment of connection to Red Crescent.

A training visit of Dr. Salma from Kuwait to Georgetown, USA is being planned for early 2012.

The expected conditions of the WAWLC collaboration with Kuwait are that all cost related to the training to be arranged in Kuwait will be paid and that WAWLC will receive a grant for its activities in resource-poor settings.

- Other countries: Requests from institutions of wound care programmes and training have been received from Nigeria and Swaziland in Africa, sites in the South Pacific, and South America. ■

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**Please remember
the early registration
deadline before
15 March 2012.**

**For more information
about the programme,
registration etc.
please visit the web-site.**



Organised by the European Wound Management Association
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