



Wound care training programme
Comments from participating delegates,
South Africa

A 4-day train the trainers programme was developed to cover various aspects of wound care, including topics such as healing physiology, evaluation of wounds, care procedures, pain management and choice of dressings.

Specific remarks

Prior to attending the training programme, delegates were asked to comment on their expectations of the programme and it was clear there was a great need for training and education on different types of wounds and the healing process in order that informed decisions could be made on the optimal choice of dressing and the most appropriate management scheme. Interestingly, many of the delegates were keen to disseminate the knowledge they would acquire during the course of the programme to their colleagues and also to use this latest information in discussions with other members of their healthcare teams so that patients benefited from the latest available technology. In this sense, inclusion of accurate information within the programme was essential. To further enhance the learning process, a multiple choice questionnaire was completed before and after the programme in order to gauge the level of knowledge acquired.

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Delegates

The training programme in South Africa was specifically designed for nurses. At the end of the programme, 89% of delegates felt their training needs had been met. The combination of plenary presentations and practical sessions was greatly appreciated by the delegates and one commented that they wished that more workshops such as this could be held in South Africa. Indeed, the programme had inspired many to want to attend more advanced wound

management courses and to visit other countries to learn how they managed wounds. The training programme had also encouraged some delegates to consider forming discussion groups and wound management teams within their institutions.

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Future

Many of the delegates thought the programme was very informative and interesting, and that they had learnt a lot about wound care. Other possible options suggested for future training included a programme specifically for doctors, surgeons and other nurses, or follow-up workshops to increase knowledge and update delegates on the latest developments. Some delegates commented that they required further information on wound dressings – how they worked and the differences between various types.