

THE INTERNATIONAL WOUND INFECTION INSTITUTE – A GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR THE CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF INFECTED WOUNDS

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Aims: Wound infection is one of the most challenging aspects of wound management today. It is a major contributor to healthcare costs around the world, and causes significant distress to patients and carers. The International Wound Infection Institute (IWII), chaired by Professor Keith Harding, was set up in 2006 with the specific aim of providing support to everyone who is involved in this fight against wound infection. In 2008 it gained true independence at its first AGM in Toronto.

Methods: The IWII undertakes the following activities:

It commissions original projects on the clinical management of wound infection, focussed on education, research and the evidence base

It publishes these and other relevant clinical material on its web site, free of charge, as a service to its members, and in recognised journals such as the international wound journal

Its Annual Focus Meeting, run over 1 day, allows for platform presentations and open discussion on new topics in wound infection as well as for the business of the institute

Results: The IWII now has over 200 members and has completed 3 original projects addressing the clinical management of wound infection, covering education, the evidence base and research.

Conclusions/discussions: We hope to discuss the findings and implications of these projects with EWMA delegates in Helsinki.