



ICW
Initiative
Chronische
Wunden

www.ic-wunden.de

Initiative Chronische Wunden

Since 1995 nurses and physicians, who are engaged in the field of wound healing, have worked together in the **Initiative Chronische Wunden**, (ICW). The aims of the organization are to improve prophylaxis and therapy of chronic wounds in Germany. In order to achieve these aims, efforts have been made to qualify caregivers from hospitals as well as from the community. Up to now more than 4000 members of different professions including nurses, physicians, podologists and others have successfully completed one of the standardized courses and have consequently been rewarded with a certificate which is becoming more and more acknowledged and recognised throughout Germany.

To give the educated wound specialists a regional forum the ICW is also strongly supporting the establishment of local groups where questions can be asked and common problems can be debated. The number of these groups is steadily increasing and at the end of 2007 nearly all major regions of Germany are represented.

Great emphasis has been laid on the involvement of the relatives of the patients in the healing process. A special brochure for the relatives of patients who suffer from pressure sores has now reached a printed edition of 10,000 copies, thereby proving the enormous need for such information. For professionals, patients and relatives alike an internet forum is open for questions. It is frequently used for lively discussions (www.ic-wunden.de) where all comments, questions and input are appreciated.

Once in a year an annual conference is held. In 2008 this event will take place in Bremen, an old harbour town situated in the northern part of Germany (7th to 8th of May) and we would be glad to welcome some of our European colleagues with whom we now hope to establish strong and reliable ties through our new co-operation with EWMA.