

News from the Association for Wound Management of Bosnia and Herzegovina (UruBiH)

The Association for Wound Management of Bosnia and Herzegovina is the first step in the making of a new strategy for the treatment of wounds of different etiology in Bosnia & Herzegovina. Being part of EWMA is a great honor for us.

Why is the Association for Wound Management of Bosnia & Herzegovina so important for us?

The Association is important because:

- Chronic wounds are a common and important medical problem which causes significant morbidity.
- Chronic wounds are expensive to treat and adversely impact the patient's quality of life and quality of life for their whole family.
- The cost of treatment for patients with leg ulcers for one month on the Dermatovenerology Department of the University Clinical Center in Sarajevo is from 1490,00 Euros to 2247,00 Euros.
- Six million days of work are lost in the United States because of complications of chronic wounds but in our country many patients are without jobs and some of them are also victims of the war in Bosnia & Herzegovina. In Sarajevo there are 3000 patients with chronic wounds (leg ulcers, pressure ulcers) who are registered with the Primary Health Care.
- Many of them have some health risk factors such as age, gender, trauma of the legs, congestive heart failure, family history of leg ulcers, and obesity.
- Until now, we have not put the issue of chronic wounds on the political agenda for a program of wound care, and, as a result, patients are not receiving the best care they can.

In the past four years we have carried out:

CLINICAL RESEARCH

A project of Clinical Research: "Application of Bioptron polarized light (480-3400nm) in the Therapy of Acne Vulgaris and Leg Ulcers" (Author: Jasmina Begic-Rahic, Naima

Arslanagic). The Project was approved by the Scientific Research Center and Members of Ethical Committee of Clinical Center University Sarajevo. To date we have treated 50 (fifty) patients with chronic wounds of different etiology with polarized light (480-3400nm) and Hydrocolloid bandages (Suprasorb A-Ag, X, X-PHMB) as the topical therapy, and we have had good results for a short period even in the cases with MRSA Infections.

We presented results of Project Clinical Research at a number of congresses:

1. "Influence of polarized light therapy (480-3400nm) in the healing of leg ulcers" - Jasmina Begic-Rahic at the 5th World Congress of International Academy of Cosmetic Dermatology (IACD), Melbourne, Australia, in December 2006.

2. "Application of polarized light therapy (480-3400nm) in Dermatology" - Jasmina Begic-Rahic at the 16th Congress European Academy of Dermatology and Venerology ESLD Annual Scientific Meeting, Vienna, Austria in May 2007.

3. "Biostimulation effects of Biopton polarized light (480-3400nm) in the therapy of leg ulcers" - Jasmina Begic-Rahic at the 1st Serbian International Congress of Phlebology, Beograd, Serbia, in October 2007.

4. "Application of Hydrocolloid bandages (Suprasorb) in the topical therapy of Leg ulcers" at the 2nd International Congress on Anti-Aging and Preventive Medicine, Portorož, Slovenia, in April 2008.

EDUCATION:

1. Workshop: Application of CDS Ultrasound in the Diagnostics of Venous diseases at the 1st Serbian International Congress of Phlebology, Beograd, Serbia in 2007.

2. HUR: International Conference: "Pressure Ulcers" Stubice Toplice, in November 2008

3. Courses: Phlebology (Beginners) EADV, Vienna, Austria, in May 2007 and Phlebology (Advanced) EADV, Vienna, Austria, also in May 2007.

EVENTS IN BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA:

1. "A new way in the therapy of leg ulcers different etiology" - Jasmina Begic-Rahic presented at the 2nd Convention of Bosnian & Herzegovinian Medical Initiative (BMI) Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina 2007.

2. Conference with workshops - "Treatment of Chronic wounds and Leg Ulcers and Compression Therapy" organised by Jasmina Begic-Rahic, Sanjin Hodžić. (Guest speakers: Tanja Planinšek Rucigaj M.D. Slovenia).

3. Presentation about the Conference with workshops - "Treatment of Chronic Wounds and Leg Ulcers and Prevention" by Jasmina Begic-Rahic at the 3rd Convention of Bosnian & Herzegovinian Medical Initiative (BMI) Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina, in July 2008.

4. Activities covering Decubital wounds and all other wounds in different medical departments Included the meeting "Management of Chronic Wounds" at University Clinical Center in Tuzla on November 6th 2008.

Presentations included:

"Treatment of Decubital Wounds in Primary Health Care" - Zaim Jatić, M.D. (Head of Family Health Care Sarajevo county) and Sanjin Hodžić B,Sc.,P.T.

"Wound Advantage Treatments with Bioocclusive Bandage (Suprasorb)" - Sanjin Hodžić B,Sc.,P.T.

What is the aim of the Association for Wound Management of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its main objectives?

1. Creation of multidisciplinary wound-care teams
2. Application of wound prevention and united care plans for all health institutions in Bosnia & Herzegovina
3. Education of patients and medical care givers
4. To create a better care system and reduce costs for patients, the health care service and health organizations
5. Improve wound care and prevention
6. Organize more medical care for elderly patients and invalids

The Association for Wound Management of Bosnia and Herzegovina started in November 2008 but the idea of the association, to create an organization which would work

across all medical centers, began in June 2008 at the Symposium in Sarajevo which was organized by the association's founders. The Symposium was attended by around 270 medical workers (doctors, nurses and pharmacists) and a number of interested patients.

Jasmina Begić-Rahić, M.D. President of URuBiH
Sanjin Hodžić, B,Sc.,P.T. Secretary of URuBiH