



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Monday 16 October, 2017

### **Wounds Australia releases new guide for health professionals to prevent infection in wound care**

Wounds Australia has released a new publication to support healthcare professionals apply aseptic technique in wound care to assist in preventing infections.

“We are delighted to be releasing *Application of aseptic technique in wound dressing procedure: a consensus document* during Wound Awareness Week. This publication will help clinicians provide evidence based wound care, and meet infection standards whether they are working in a hospital, or someone’s home.” said Ms Anne Buck, Wounds Australia CEO.

“Healthcare associated infections are a significant issue and all health professionals must take responsibility for preventing infection. The *Consensus Document* is a resource for clinicians and service providers to guide wound dressing practice, policy and procedure.” said Ms Kerry May, Wounds Australia spokesperson.

“The recommendations have been developed as consensus statements by a diverse group of experts in wound care and infection prevention and control across many health care settings.” Ms May said.

“This publication will help ensure all Australians who are receiving wound care receive treatment that is evidenced based and reduces the risk of infection irrespective of where they are being treated” said Ms Buck.

*Application of aseptic technique in wound dressing procedure* is based on Standard 3 of the National Safety & Quality Health Service Standards and makes recommendations on how this standard can be achieved in wound dressing procedure. It covers wound cleansing, storage of wound products, the use and management of open-but-unused dressing products, and cleaning and environmental aspects.

Running from 16 to 20 October, Wound Awareness Week aims to draw much needed public and media attention to the issue of chronic wounds. Australians are being asked to ‘Be Wound Aware’, know the ‘Warning Signs of Wounds,’ and get treatment from healthcare professionals.

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## **ABOUT WOUND AWARENESS WEEK**



Wound Awareness Week is an annual initiative of [Wounds Australia](#) - the peak body for wounds care and management in Australia through advocacy, education and research.

For more information on Wound Awareness Week and chronic wounds, visit [the Wound Aware website](#).

*Application of aseptic technique in wound dressing procedure a consensus document* is available for [download](#) from the Wounds Australia website.

**MEDIA:**

Interviews are available with:

- Wounds Australia CEO Anne Buck
- Kerry May, EMBA, M.Gerontology, Grad.Dip. VET, B.Pod - a registered Podiatrist with over 22 years' experience in public health, and is currently the Chief Operations Manager of Epworth Eastern

**For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Alys Francis on 0476 287 787 or [alys@fiftyacres.com](mailto:alys@fiftyacres.com)**