



AWMA MODULE ACCREDITATION

Module Seven: Conservative Sharp Wound Debridement

Introduction- The Australian Wound Management Association Education & Professional Development Sub Committee-(AWMA EPDSC) has developed the minimum components that are required in a set of basic Professional Development modules for skin integrity maintenance and wound management. In addition an aligned framework for competency assessment for each of these modules co exists.

The Committee sought assistance through the European Wound Management Association (EWMA-2004) who had developed a core set of educational requirements for specific modules. In Collaboration with EWMA the AWMA module and competency assessment content documents were produced.

There is provision for some information to be excluded but those seeking endorsement for particular training modules must be able to explain why the content is not being taught (See Table 1).

Code	* Reasons why content not included in course
1	Learners have prior knowledge
2	Content considered irrelevant
3	Lack of time to deliver this content
4	Lack of expertise to deliver this content
5	Other reasons (please specify below)

Table 1

The time taken to deliver the content within each module is up to the presenter/organisation. AWMA is providing a guide only. The content suggestion could in some instances just have one slide on epidemiology and 20 slides on infection –the actual structure of the session/ presentation is up to the presenter/organisation. AWMA has however provided some suggestions as to what could be expected if all the content was covered.

These expectations are listed under the headings –Intellectual knowledge and understanding, and Practical skills and attributes. At this present time AWMA does not endorse education programs.

The module content checklist is a guide only. They are available to ensure presenters/organisations and those advertising courses understand what would be a minimum educational content for basic skin integrity and wound education programs. Likewise with the advanced programs – High Risk Foot; Oncology Related and Palliative Wounds and Conservative Sharp Wound Debridement.

The AWMA Standards for Wound Management underpin all modules and will be referred to in abbreviated form e.g. Standard 2 (S-2).

Health professionals undertaking this module must have completed Module One: Introduction to Wound Management

Intended learning outcomes of Module Seven:

Completion of an AWMA accredited 'Conservative Sharp Wound Debridement' module provides opportunities for health professionals to develop and demonstrate knowledge, understanding, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

Intellectual skills-knowledge and understanding of:

1. The physiology in relation to tissue viability and non-viability.
2. The epidemiology of wounds commonly known to result in non-viable tissue especially pressure injuries, vascular wounds, dehisced surgical wounds, trauma wounds and foot wounds in the patient with diabetes.
3. Tissue differentiation of various types eg fat, fascia, muscle, and viable versus non viable tissue.
4. The different methods of achieving wound debridement.
5. Contraindications for sharp debridement – arterial insufficiency, gangrene, unidentifiable structures, medications.
6. Methods/Indications to minimise procedural pain.
7. The cost care models for each of the methods of achieving wound debridement.
8. The evidence related to the various treatments available for the conservative sharp wound debridement.
9. The organisational protocols, procedures and recommendations for conservative sharp wound debridement.
10. The psychological issues associated with wounds that contain necrotic non viable tissue, their impact on the individual and their family/carers.
11. Local services providing the service of conservative sharp wound debridement.
12. Planning of frequency and extent of debridement.
13. Limitations to scope of practice and legal requirements.

Practical skills and attributes to:

1. Appropriately assess and document patients' wounds with non-viable tissue.
2. Identify known specific and non-specific factors that will impact on ability to heal the wound.
3. Identify appropriate management strategies from ideal to actual according to the individuals needs.
4. Accurately assess the tissue requiring debridement.
4. Safely and effectively use the instruments/equipment without incurring damage to self or others.
5. Safely remove non-viable tissue from the wound bed and surrounding callus removal.
6. Initiate further investigations and identify when to seek further specialist intervention or help from other health professionals.
8. Identify the psychological and psychosocial impact of nonviable tissue and slow to heal wounds on the patient.

MODULE CONTENT CHECKLIST

Indicate inclusion of educational content by placing a tick in column A.

Indicate, where applicable, reasons for content not included by inserting a code (1-5)* in column C.

Code	*Reasons why content not included in course
1	Learners have prior knowledge
2	Content considered irrelevant
3	Lack of time to teach this content
4	Lack of expertise to teach this content
5	Other reasons (please specify below)

Inclusion (A)	Educational Content (B)	Reasons why content not included in course (Insert code 1-5)* (C)
1.0	Overview / Epidemiology *Core module one plus:	
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The economic costs associated with chronic non healing wounds of various pathologies. 	
2.0	Anatomy and Pathophysiology * Core module one plus:	
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific identifiers of skin cancers of the various pathologies 	
2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific identifiers of wounds of unusual aetiologies e.g Vasculitis 	
2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific identifiers of tendon, bone, fascia, muscle and subcutaneous tissue 	
3.0	Principles of Patient Care *Core module one plus:	
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Importance of consent for the procedure 	
3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explanation of what is to be achieved and extent of the procedure 	
4.0	Assessment * Core module one plus:	
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General assessment process including the use of other devices and products to debride a wound apart from conservative sharp debridement –list benefits and disadvantages 	
4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The rationale for wound debridement 	
4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The efficacy and the indications of CSWD 	
4.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medical indications and contraindications of wound debridement 	
4.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk benefits analysis of the procedure 	

4.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tissue recognition related to specific infective organisms 	
4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Location of wound in relation to surrounding anatomy and the clinical viability of sharp debridement 	
4.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limitations of each method within a particular environment 	
4.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific assessment – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the type of tissue needing to be debrided, • the type of tissue expected to be found beneath the non viable tissue, • the amount and type of pain expected with the procedure and other types of debridement, • the ongoing dressing requirement post conservative sharp debridement, • the expectations of the tissue remaining post the procedure, • the requirement for systemic, topical or combination antibiotics and antimicrobials 	
4.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When CWSD is contra indicated. ie ischaemic necrotic tissue should be left <i>in situ</i>. 	
5.0	Risk Factor Management *Core module one plus:	
5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local protocols re infection control and contraindications to conservative sharp wound debridement and cautionary notes 	
5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local protocols concerning patient consent 	
5.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wound documentation reflecting rationale for type of debridement selected, expectations and review processes 	
5.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The medico- legal aspects of CSWD 	
5.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Professional indemnity insurance and past litigation cases 	

5.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk of complications of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bleeding, spreading • spreading infection • underlying disease processes • extent of existing ischaemia 	
5.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When CSWD procedure should be ceased: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The anatomy of the wound and surrounding area is unclear or a structure cannot be identified • Bleeding is excessive or the source is unclear. 	
5.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need for pain management and or antibiotic therapy 	
6.0	Wound Management *Core module one plus:	
6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prevention strategies include anticipating poor tissue perfusion and addressing factors related to poor tissue perfusion, addressing poor nutrition and further injury due to pressure, shear, friction and localised infection 	
6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintaining non viable tissue in a stable condition if that is the best option 	
6.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review the environment and equipment required to perform procedure including handling and after care 	
6.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nutritional support to ensure that once non-viable tissue has been removed there is cellular energy to promote new tissue growth 	
6.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess, identify and manage pain pre and post procedure 	
6.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The role of the multi-professional team in managing complex non healing wounds containing non viable tissue 	
6.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The use of dressings in managing bacterial load in conjunction with conservative sharp wound debridement 	

7.0	Wound Infection *Core module One plus:	
7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Localized and spreading wound infection 	
7.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tissue recognition related to specific infective organisms 	
7.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pathological markers of wound infection 	
7.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prophylactic antibiotic therapy required for debridement. 	
8.0	Manual Skills	
8.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning the procedure 	
8.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Techniques of handling instruments 	
8.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Steps to performing the procedure in a safe and ergonomic manner for both clinician and patient. 	

References:

1. Australian Wound Management Association, Standards for Wound Management, 2nd edition, West Leederville WA, Cambridge Publishing, 2010. Available from <http://www.awma.com.au/publication>