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—Editorial—

A Happy New Year to All Readers!

Welcome to the first pressure ulcer e-newsletter of 2007! Hopefully you will have returned to work relaxed and refreshed after the Christmas Holidays and ready to tackle the age old problem of pressure ulcers again?

What will 2007 bring for the pressure ulcer community? There are meetings of the US National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel and the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel this year. In fact the EPUAP reaches an important milestone with its 10th Annual Open Meeting to be held in Oxford over the 30th August to the 1st September 2007. Look at the EPUAP web-site to obtain further details www.epuap.org. Most importantly look out for the closing date for submission of abstracts and posters! Last year in Berlin EPUAP received over 100 high-quality abstracts - it would be great if the UK pressure ulcer community submitted a wealth of material to this meeting to highlight that this country has a strong leadership role in both pressure ulcer prevention and treatment.

In fact all of the leading European wound associations - EPUAP, EWMA and the ETRS host

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their annual meetings here in the UK during 2007. This is the first time I can recall that all of the major European groups have been in the UK in the same year. This gives a unique opportunity for us to highlight pressure ulcers at these events.

Pressure ulcer audit will undoubtedly remain a topic of great interest to all of us during 2007. It is surprising and rather disappointing that we continue to struggle over the counting and reporting of pressure ulcers - perhaps there is a need for a specific initiative to deal with this challenge once and for all? However one has a horrible suspicion that the first editorials of 2008 and onwards will continue to echo this theme of audit. It would be excellent if the specific issues we discussed moved forward - how to take account of changes in our patient population when counting pressure ulcers for example. These more advanced topics must remain largely upon the shelf until we can get the basics right - pressure ulcer classification, the most effective ways of gathering prevalence and incidence data and how to present the data to allow appropriate comparisons. Maybe one day these can be considered to be resolved?

The remainder of this newsletter is given over to an exhaustive list of MEDLINE listed pressure ulcer publications from 2006 - if only we had the time to read all of these!!!

Michael Clark
Editor

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This month's pressure ulcer newsletter sees a massive New Year reference list covering all MEDLINE 2006 listed 2006 references that were identified using Pressure Ulcer as the search term. The length of this list gives some indication of the wealth of new primary research into the causes, prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers.

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