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Visit the Wounds UK website at <http://www.wounds-uk.com>

<p>‣ Wounds UK sponsored by Johnson and Johnson Webcast</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">—Editorial—</p> <p>This weeks EWMA conference in Lisbon looks set to be an excellent event with a great number of presentations from experts from all over Europe and beyond. With the World Union meeting in Toronto being only 3 weeks away, there is a feeling that all eyes are on wound care and the success of these meetings could help to push wound care up the agenda. This needs to happen in two ways, firstly there is the healthcare agenda, which despite wound care being a core part of many practitioners daily work, is still not seen as meriting recognition (ask any undergraduate student). Secondly the political agenda has to engage with wound care in the same way it has done successfully (not always) with infection control. As is often the case in healthcare, things have to go wrong before change is implemented. The issue of wound infection in pressure ulcers is a case in point. Tissue viability and related disciplines have been shouting from the rooftops for years about the links between pressure ulcer prevention and reduction in HAI (Healthcare Acquired Infection), it is after all common sense. Yet it would appear that it has taken large scale audit and growing litigation to incite some action from those in Westminster.</p> <p>It is also apparent that audit and producing relevant data are often needed to convince the powers that be, that there is a problem. We as a group should be making every effort to provide tangible evidence to prove that problems exist and that, if audit is carried out it can help to raise awareness among staff, patients and importantly organisations where care is delivered.</p> <p>John Timmons Editor</p>	<p>‣ BSN Medical News Release</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p>
<p>‣ Activa Healthcare receive a Queen's award for innovation (Press Release)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p>		<p>‣ Papers of Interest</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p>
<p>‣ Forthcoming Events</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p>		
<p>‣ BSN and Wounds UK Study Day</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p>		
<p>‣ Funding Available</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p>		

➤ **Wounds UK sponsored by Johnson and Johnson Webcast**

On July 10th this year Wounds UK will present a webcast on 'The Role of Antimicrobials in Wound Healing', sponsored by Johnson and Johnson. The session will last one hour and there will be 3 presentations by leading UK experts on antimicrobials and wound healing. The session can be accessed from any computer with internet capability and the presenters will be available to answer questions via email after the event.

➤ **Activa Healthcare receive a Queen's award for innovation (Press Release)**

THREE TOP ACCOLADES IN THREE MONTHS:

Queen's Award Recognises Innovative Company Dedicated To Reducing Patients' Wound Pain

Activa Healthcare, the UK's market leading compression therapy company, has today (21st April 2008) been awarded with the most prestigious corporate accolade for its commitment to making groundbreaking developments in treating wound pain and venous and lymphatic disease.

The award is Activa's third recognition of corporate excellence in as many months, having been named the UK's sixth best small company to work for, with the happiest staff in the country, in this year's "100 Best Small Companies" nationwide poll; and also having been awarded Best Companies Three Star Status, as an "extraordinary employer". *

It also marks the second time in the last five years that Activa Healthcare - celebrating its 10th anniversary - has won the esteemed Queen's Award for Enterprise in the Innovation category, entering it into an elite group of companies that have been recognised more than once.

Activa Healthcare is pioneering the treatment of wound pain with its British patented hydrogel technology, which significantly reduces pain from epidermal damage (1) caused by, for example, leg ulcers, burns, scalds and radiation therapy. The product, ActiFormCool, is gentle enough that it is now being used successfully to treat even the most delicate of wounds on premature babies.

A number of independent clinical research papers have concluded that ActiFormCool effectively reduces wound pain. It is recognised that wound pain should be handled as one of the main priorities in chronic wound management, together with addressing the cause, and unless wound pain is optimally managed, patient suffering and costs to the healthcare system will increase. (2)

Patient feedback puts pain ahead of wound healing in terms of what matters most, which has important implications for the one-in-three of over 65 year-olds who are in continual pain. (3) Leg ulcers affect more than 1% of the UK population at any one time, costing the health service around £600 million per year.

Activa has further helped to revolutionise the lives of leg ulcer patients, with its Leg Ulcer Hosiery Kit. The new product is designed to give independence to people who previously had to wear bulky bandages, which severely limited their activities. Activa's alternative hosiery and liner kit offers patients optimum comfort, mobility and quality of life, like never before.

Marc Courtney, Activa Healthcare's Managing Director, says, "We're delighted to receive the Queen's Award for the second time, and hope it serves to increase awareness of leg health issues. Scooping this award, as well as the 'Best Companies' accolade, truly highlights the entire team's dedication to achieving our shared goals.

"We see it as vital that people become more aware of the first signs of venous disease, in order to prevent early-stage conditions worsening and potentially leading to painful and debilitating leg ulcers later in life. Our products are designed to offer solutions across the entire spectrum of venous health issues, right from preventing varicose veins through to treating and managing chronic oedema and ulceration. Few people recognise that these leg health issues are inter-related and are often preventable if treated at the right time with the right products."

Varicose veins affect around 20-30% of women worldwide (4) and are one of the first signs of venous disease. Activa is constantly introducing new designs, yarns and technologies to its compression hosiery - ensuring it is not only the most effective product range but is also virtually indistinguishable

from ordinary hosiery - with its comfort, appearance and ease of application leading to significantly increased patient compliance.

Since winning the Queen's Award in 2003, Activa Healthcare also became the first company to launch a range of specialist products available on prescription to manage lymphoedema, which around one-in-four breast cancer sufferers will develop. (5) ActiLymph has changed the lives of patients who previously had to travel to hospital to receive treatment for the chronic and painful condition.

"As well as product developments, we have introduced industry-leading education schemes for nurses and a number of new resources to make treatment easier and improve patients' quality of life," says Mr Courtney.

For more information about the prevention and treatment of venous and lymphatic diseases, visit www.activahealthcare.co.uk or call Activa Healthcare on **08450 606 707**.

Further information about Activa Healthcare's pioneering training and industry-first initiatives designed to help healthcare professionals deliver best treatment, including the new Pain Pack, revamped Online Hosiery Selector, nationwide Chronic Oedema Study Days and lymphoedema microsite, can also be found at the newly updated website.

▸ **Forthcoming Events**

WUWHS

The previous World Union of Wound Healing Societies Meeting was held in Paris in 2004, and was a huge success. This years' event in Toronto promises to be an incredible occasion. The theme for the conference is One Problem One Voice, and aims to bring together experts from around the world working towards improved patient care. Click on the link below to visit the website.

4 -8 June 2008: World Union of Wound Healing Societies' Meeting 2008 - www.worldunion2008.com

EWMA Conference Lisbon May 14th -16th

Wound Management Wound Healing and Responsibility and Actions

Visit EWMA.org for information (click on the link) or [download the flyer](#)

WOUNDS UK

Wounds UK Summer Conference will take place in Ascot on the 2 July this year and will cover a number of key issues with top speakers from all over the UK.

For more information go to the [Wound Essentials Summer Conference page](#)

International Lymphoedema Conference & Exhibition 2009

Wounds UK, The International Lymphoedema Framework and Activa healthcare are proud to announce an International Chronic Oedema Conference. The conference will take place at Royal Ascot in April 2009 and is a must for all those involved in caring for patients with chronic oedema.

Go to http://www.wounds-uk.com/lymphoedema_conference_09.shtml for more information.

Activa Chronic Oedema Roadshows

This years Activa/Wounds UK Chronic Oedema Roadshows begin in June this year with further events taking place in October. Christine Moffatt will be presenting as well as a number of other key UK speakers. The events have been hugely popular in the past and are essential for all those involved in treating patients with chronic oedema.

Go to the [Activa website](#) or for more information <http://www.wounds-uk.com/conferences.shtml> for information on how to register.

➤ BSN and Wounds UK Study Day

BSN and Wounds UK invite you to a study day in the City of Manchester Stadium entitled 'Cost effective management of wound infection-without Silver'

A number of key UK speakers including David Gray, Richard White, Martin Kiernan, Paul Trueman, Ray Norris and John Timmons will be presenting on the key issues involved in assessing, diagnosing and treating patients with wound infections. Ray Norris will be presenting case studies using Cutisorb Sorbact to treat wounds and in addition there will be a presentation on Health Economics by Paul Trueman from the York Health Economics Consortium. This event is free and [click here for more information and how to book a place](#)

➤ **Funding Available**

[Download Flyer](#) (W:\Wounds-UK 2005\Main Site\woundcare\downloads\urgo.pdf)

Established by Herve Le Lous, Chairman of Laboratoires Uργο, this non profit making foundation offers clinicians and researchers the opportunity of funding for the development of a local project which will be of benefit to the wound care community.

The annual Prize fund is €25,000 and will be awarded by the UK Board in two subject areas: Clinical and Scientific. Mentorship and support will be available to successful applicants.

Closing date 30th May 2008

➤ **BSN Medical News Release**

BSN have announced that their unique antimicrobial dressing range, Cutimed Sorbact has been awarded a place on the NHS Supply Chain Advanced Wound Care contract. [Download the PDF for more information](#) (W:\Wounds-UK 2005\Main Site\woundcare\downloads\bsn_press_release.pdf)

Closing date 30th May 2008

➤ **References – papers of interest**

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