

Media Release: Thursday, 15th March 2018

Media Release: Wound CRC and Participants Launch the Chronic Wound Recommendations Paper

Today a substantial outcome of the Wound CRC's Health Economics research has been released as a part of the Chronic Wound Care forum at Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital in Brisbane, Queensland.

The paper 'Chronic Wounds Recommendations' is the outcome of the CRC's Health Economics team led by the Australian Centre for Health Services Innovation (AusHSI) at QUT with Queensland Health (Metro North Hospital and Health Service) and the Brisbane North Primary Health Network; with important input from national experts during several stakeholder forums.

The paper provides 17 stakeholder-driven recommendations and strategies to improve the outcomes of Australians with chronic wounds.

The recommendations are split between the following 6 categories: Advocacy and Awareness, Intensify and improve education and training, Accreditation/Credentialing, Access to wound care products and services (improving physical access and financial support), Transdisciplinary patient-centred care and Surveillance and research.

All recommendations are interdependent and underpinned by an urgent need for increased awareness of the significance of chronic wounds, and the imperative that chronic wounds management be made a strategic objective for all levels of government.

The paper provides the evidence base and the achievable solutions to prevent and treat chronic wounds in Australia as a sustained, national effort.

Speaking at the Forum today was CEO of Wound CRC Dr Ian Griffiths:

"The launch of this paper is a significant culmination of our investment into health economics and sets the tone for the future of wound management beyond the term of the CRC.

Through this paper, we have identified and provided the solutions, and now, we all need to work together to reduce the significant preventable national burden of chronic wounds and improve patient outcomes.

It's no surprise that the translation activities of the CRC address many of the recommendations, given that our activities are based upon the same solid evidence base that constitutes the paper.

In particular, we are addressing the need for credentialing through our soon to be launched Wound Credentialing Program and, through Wound Innovations, we are improving access to specialist wound care, trans-disciplinary wound services, research and education.

Combined these activities provide a platform for advocacy of evidence based wound management and set the standard for prevention and control of chronic wounds in Australia. The CRC in its translation activities will continue to work with key stakeholders to ensure the delivery and success of the recommendations"

The overview of the findings and recommendations can be read on the AusHSI Website: <http://www.aushsi.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2653-QUT-AusHSI-CW-Solutions-NM-07.pdf>