

Provider Relations: Promoting the CWS® Designation

The AAWM Provider Relations Committee is dedicated to promoting AAWM and the CWS® designation both inside and outside of the AAWM community. The committee has been working hard and has developed the following goals for 2003:

- To educate outside organizations of the value of the CWS® and purposes of the AAWM (i.e. AAWM is a certifying body, not an educational body).
- To develop a Best Practice Outcomes Survey with a goal of outlining facts on why a CWS® is a better wound care professional.
- To develop an informational brochure that promotes the importance of CWS® and the CWS® wound care team.
- To qualify the value of the CWS® designation.
- To develop literature explaining the CWS® process, especially the difficult screening process involved.
- To develop standard letters for use by new and prospective CWSs to give to employers, membership organizations,

government agencies, etc. to educate and explain the value of the certification.

- To identify target audiences, including Insurers and governmental agencies to promote the CWS® certification.

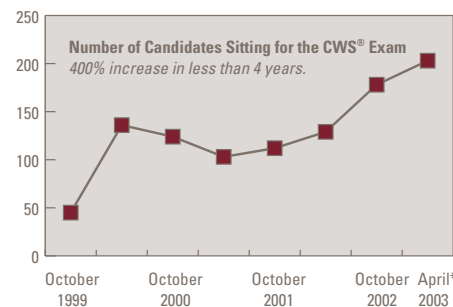
Members of the Provider Relations Committee include:

Robin D. Tellez, MS/HSA, RN, CWS, *Chair*
 Steve E. Abraham, DPM, CWS
 Evelyn Capdevila, MPT, CWS
 William A. Freundlich, DPM, CWS
 Patricia A Ghikas, M.Ed., PT, GCS, CWS
 Heather Leigh Hunter, PhD (c), PT, MLT, CWS
 Amor Khachemoune, MD, CWS
 James McGuire, DPM, PT, Cped, CWS
 Anne H. Myer, BS, PT, GCS, CWS
 Amy E. Sartoris-Kietrys, MPT, CWS
 Pamela A. Scarborough, MS, PT, CDE, CWS

If you are aware of an organization or agency that is not familiar with AAWM or the CWS® designation, please contact Melissa Forburger at 202-521-0368 or mforburger@aaawm.org.

Candidates for CWS® Examination Continue to Increase

Interest in the Academy's Board Certification Examination for Wound Care Professionals continues to grow at a rapid pace. Since the first examination, the CWS® examination has seen the number of candidates sitting for the exam increase over 400% compared with the first test offered in October 1999.



*Currently scheduled to take the exam as of April 14, 2003; This number will decrease slightly based on a handful of last minute cancellations.

Help the AAWM continue with its mission to elevate the standard of wound care by encouraging members of your wound care team to sit for the exam. Candidate information can be downloaded from the AAWM website at www.aaawm.org. The cost to sit for the exam is \$400. Future test dates are:

OCTOBER 18, 2003
Materials Deadline: September 5

APRIL 17, 2004
Materials Deadline: March 12

OCTOBER 16, 2004
Materials Deadline: September 3

AAWM News is published quarterly as a member service of the American Academy of Wound Management.

AAWM Mission

AAWM is dedicated to the multidisciplinary team approach in promoting the science of prevention, care and treatment of acute and chronic wounds. The primary function is to establish and monitor a national certification process, recognize competency, promote education and research, and elevate the standard of care across the continuum of wound management.

Need for Questions; Focus on Preparation

by Chuck Gokoo, MD, CWS

Good day to all. In February I attended the Exam Committee meeting held in Washington D. C. and wanted to report that the certification examinations for 2003 were reviewed and approved. I want to thank everyone who gave up a weekend to contribute to this lengthy project. This process is very important in maintaining not only the integrity of the examination but also the quality standard set by the Academy. More important, the review allows participants to use the examination to judge their own level of wound management knowledge.

One of the areas we are looking at for future examinations are case studies with photographs. If you have a case study you feel would make a good examination question you may submit it along with a photograph or digital image to (Sallyann Henry, Professional Testing Corporation, shenry@ptcny.com). A few helpful sugges-

tions that are important to remember when writing questions:

- They must be in multiple choice format
- They must have four possible answers (with the correct answer identified)
- Please list a reference source with each question
- They should be designed for participants to recall, understand, apply or evaluate

When submitting a photograph or digital image with a question, please note:

- Photographs or digital images may be in either color or black & white (no Polaroids)
- If using a digital camera a high resolution setting produces quality images
- The area of interest should be clear and easily identifiable

- Patient privacy must be respected, no names or identifying information may be visible
- If possible, a ruler (in cm or mm for scale purposes) should be visible in the photograph or image

One of the concerns voiced by many examination candidates is the lack of a review course to assist in preparing for the exam. I am proud to say that this issue has been addressed. If you haven't heard the news, the Institute for the Advancement of Wound Management (IAWM), a subsidiary of AAWM, has been formed. The IAWM's activities will include finding educational providers whose courses will assist in preparing for the AAWM certification examination. If you are interested in becoming an educational provider for the IAWM please contact Robin Tellez at robincares@aol.com or 305-682-7989 or Tony McNevin, 301-340-7444 or amcnevin@mindspring.com for further information.

Candidates wishing to attend a course or seminar may now go to the AAWM web site (Meetings and Seminars Section) and choose from a list of available programs. Visit the site and judge it for yourself.

Deadline

Deadline for exam question or picture submission is May 23rd for 2004 exams. E-mail to shenry@ptcny.com. NOTE: You can always submit your items any time of the year. Please remember that all case studies, photographs and digital images become the property of the AAWM for use as determined by the AAWM.

AAWM Exhibits & Regional Committee Update

AAWM will be exhibiting at the following national meetings this year:

- The Symposium on Advanced Wound Care (SAWC) in Las Vegas, Nevada at the end of April. The regional committee, AAWM staff and Board Members will be working at the booth. A CWS® Reception on Tuesday, April 29th is also planned.
- The Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society (WOCN), June 14-18, 2003 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The AAWM will be at booth #725.

- Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin & Wound Care, October 16-19, 2003 in Chicago, Illinois. AAWM will host a CWS® reception as well as a CWS® Annual Business Meeting during the dates of this meeting.

In addition, the Regional Committee has held exhibits at the following trade shows:

- The Florida Podiatric Medical Association meeting; SAM 2003 - Science and Management Symposium; January 2003; Orlando, FL
- Global Wound Strategies, Inc.; February 2003; Miami, FL

- American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons 2003 Annual Meeting and Scientific Seminar; Orlando, FL; February 2003

The purpose of the Regional Committee is to promote AAWM and the CWS® designation on a local scale as a supplement to attendance at the large national trade show meetings. The committee is always in search of new exhibits and markets to visit. If you know of a meeting in your local or nearby state, please contact Emily Gegg at AAWM Headquarters, 202/521-0368 or egegg@aaawm.org with the information.

Meetings Calendar

May 2003

MAY 2-4, 2003

The Big Meeting

Texas Podiatric Medical Association
The Woodlands, TX
800-839-3668
www.txpma.org

MAY 3-8, 2003

The Wound Healing Society

13th Annual Educational Symposium & Exhibition
Seattle, WA
888-434-4234
www.woundheal.org

MAY 5-7, 2003

Spinal Cord Injuries

Contemporary Forums
Miami, FL
925-828-7100
www.cforums.com

MAY 6-8, 2003

Wound Care Seminar

Southwest Missouri State University
Louisville, KY
502-585-3200
www.ccpe.smsu.edu/nurse/

MAY 15-17, 2003

Wound Management Workshop

University of California San Diego, School of Medicine
San Diego, CA
858-490-9015
mtgs@ix.netcom.com

MAY 22-27, 2003

31st Annual Physician Assistant Conference

American Academy of Physician Assistants
New Orleans, LA
703-836-2272
www.aapa.org

June 2003

JUNE 13-17, 2003

63rd Scientific Sessions

American Diabetes Association
New Orleans, LA
www.diabetes.org

JUNE 14-18, 2003

WOCN 35th Annual Conference

Cincinnati, OH
888-224-WOCN
www.wocn.org

JUNE 18-21, 2003

Physical Therapy 2003: Annual Conference & Exposition of the American Physical Therapy Association

Washington Convention Center
Washington, DC
703-684-2782
www.apta.org

August 2003

AUGUST 7-10, 2003

2003 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Podiatric Medical Association

Washington, DC
www.apma.org

September 2003

SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2003

Southwest Foot and Ankle Conference

Texas Podiatric Medical Association
Dallas, TX
800-839-3668
www.txpma.org

SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2003

Wound Management Workshop

University of California San Diego, School of Medicine
San Diego, CA
858-490-9015
mtgs@ix.netcom.com

October 2003

OCTOBER 3-5, 2003

7th Annual Wound Care Congress

San Antonio, TX
800-722-0080
www.educators2000plus.com

OCTOBER 16-19, 2003

Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin & Wound Care

Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins
Chicago, Illinois
800-346-7844 x7750
www.symposiumwound-care.com



Share Ideas with Other CWSs

Have a few ideas to share? Visit the AAWM Wound Care Forum on the AAWM website to share ideas and concerns you have with other Certified Wound Specialists across the country. To participate, visit www.aawm.org and click on the red button that says "discussion forum." If you are not already a Delphi member, simply sign up before logging in.

E-mail addresses needed for all CWSs

The AAWM is requesting that all CWSs who have an e-mail address, please submit that address to AAWM Headquarters. An address/information verification form was sent out by e-mail to those CWSs who had previously provided an e-mail. We will be doing other e-mails throughout the year with updates of information. These addresses will not be given out to other organizations.

If you do have an e-mail address and did not receive the verification e-mail last Fall, please contact Headquarters or e-mail your address to lmullen@aawm.org.

FAQ / Frequently Asked Questions

Q What does my annual renewal provide for?

A Your renewal provides you with continued use of the CWS® designation, subscription to AAWM News, access to the AAWM Website, copy of the National Registry of Certified Wound Specialists, opportunity to serve on the AAWM Board and Committees, CWS® Lapel pin, and networking resources.

Each year CWSs are required to renew by paying \$150 and documenting six (6) hours of continuing education in wound management. Renewals are due within three months of receipt. Please return only your renewal form, no CEU attachments are necessary (but should be kept in your personal files for audit purposes).

Q How can I volunteer for AAWM with my busy schedule?

A AAWM is always in need of new questions (items) for the Certification Examination. Questions can be sent year round to shenry@ptcny.com. For guidelines on writing and submitting questions, please see page two of this issue.

Q My hospital won't recognize my CWS® certification, what can I do?

A As the group of Certified Wound Care Specialists continues to grow, so do the number of national, regional and local organizations, agencies and facilities that recognize the CWS® designation. However, occasionally a CWS® encounters a group that will not recognize the certification. If you find yourself in this situation, please contact AAWM Headquarters at 202/521-0368 or woundnet@aawm.org. The AAWM's Provider Relations Committee will submit letters and materials on behalf of you and AAWM, encouraging the organization to recognize AAWM and the CWS® designation.

Next Exam Date

October 18, 2003

Materials Deadline: September 5

Testing Centers Nationwide

Help Stock the AAWM Library

AAWM Headquarters is looking for donated publications for its internal library. The AAWM is building a library of resources that will be available for the exam committee's use. If you have copies of any of the following publications, and you wouldn't mind parting with them, please send them to headquarters:

1. *Wound Care: A Collaborative Practice Manual for Physical Therapists and Nurses*
2. *Chronic Wound Care: A Clinical Sources Book for Healthcare Professionals*
3. *Acute and Chronic Wounds: Nursing Management*
4. *Clinical Wound Management*
5. *Wound Healing: Alternatives in Management*
6. *The Molecular and Cellular Biology and Wound Repair*
7. *Wound Care (Nurse's Clinical Guide)*
8. *The Diabetic Foot*
9. *Physician's Desk Reference*
10. *Medical Dictionary*

Other publications that benefit AAWM are also welcome. Thank you in advance for the donation of your used or new books.

Visit our website: <http://www.aawm.org> AAWM and Board Certification Information | Resources for wound care professionals

AAWMnews

American Academy of Wound Management
1255 Twenty-Third Street NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037-1174