

Wound Healing Foundation

The Wound Healing Foundation (WHF), founded in 1999, is a public 501(c)(3) non-profit organisation dedicated to improving wound healing worldwide through funding research, education, and outreach. The Foundation was formed by dedicated medical and scientific professionals committed to wound care and to providing patients, researchers, healthcare professionals, and their healthcare systems with the resources to make significant contributions in the critical, albeit under-appreciated, area of wound healing.

Programmes such as funding *in vitro* and *in vivo* wound research by WHF are not only needed, but provide money for key wound and scar areas of importance. Providing a free, online, moderated wound support community allows patients from all over the world to interact with WHF and other patients and caregivers and gives them a voice.

Professionals have the opportunity to listen and be inspired by the annual WHF-Hunt lecture given by innovative researchers from a variety of fields that impact wound research. Although based in the USA, programmes are globally impacting and beneficial, as resources permit. The WHF mission is met through the efforts of dedicated volunteers and donations from individuals and corporations.

Patient Village

WHF is consistently working to raise the visibility and increase education of the issues with wound healing and scarring. It offers both clinicians and patients resources in this field and the EADV Congress hosted many clinicians from over 20 countries at the Patient Village

continued on page 7 >>

Booth at the Patient Society Village at the 25th EADV Congress in Vienna



Wound facts

Did you know?

- Wounds and scars are associated with high levels of pain, anxiety and negatively impact QoL¹
- Chronic wound prevalence in US >6.5 million and >200,000 in the UK²⁻⁵
- Cost of chronic wound care is approximately \$20-25billion in the US and £3.1 billion in the UK³⁻⁶
- Wounds are a global epidemic⁷
- Mortality rates of patients with diabetic wounds have a 45-55% five-year mortality rate greater than most cancers including melanoma's rate of 7%.⁸

Did you know?

The Wound Healing Foundation (WHF) Mission:

Improving the quality of life for wound healing patients and their families through support of awareness, research and education.

- **Awareness** – WHF raises awareness of the millions of people worldwide with difficulty in wound healing
- **Research** – WHF raises grant funds to support research dedicated to all wound healing processes, including scarring
- **Education** – WHF supports educational outreach with lectures, brochures and support documents for providers, systems, and patient on wound healing and optimizing wound care.

References

1. Brown et al *J Plast Recon Aesthetic Surg* 2008
2. Sen et al *Wound Repair Regen* 2009
3. Nole et al *JAMA* 2015
4. Richmond et al *Wound Repair Regen* 2013
5. Nole et al *Wound Repair Regen* 2014
6. Posnett et al *Nursing Times* 2008
7. World Health Organization 2010
8. Armstrong et al *Int J Wound Care* 2007

Patients' Information



Wound Healing
Foundation

◀◀ continued from page 6

searching for resources to take home to their patients.

More research funding

It was helpful to hear more about educational unmet needs, but also the need for research funding. Having so many disease advocacy organisations within one Patient Village was a positive opportunity to make connections for many. By the end of the conference, all of the organisations' representatives had

shared experiences, emails and ideas to help the dermatological patient and their clinicians.

Patient session

EADV held a special patient session and all of the Patient Village representatives were invited to attend. Each speaker approached the topic differently, but effectively, encouraging both clinicians and patients to use their time effectively. Most important, however, is the need to listen to one another for the best possible outcome. Watching the role play of the

patient and clinician shed light on the perception and experience from both sides.

EADV was a wonderful host to WHF and we applaud their efforts to engage and partner with non-profits like us. Together we can provide both clinicians and wounded patients with the tools needed to make their outcomes successful!

Information on WHF funding, lectures, programmes, deadlines and news can be found on the website:

www.woundhealingfoundation.org ●

Apply for an EADV Research Fellowship!

The purpose of the Research Fellowship is to provide support for young dermatologists or trainees in dermatology-venereology or junior scientists from other basic science disciplines (post-doctoral scientists) to receive advanced training on basic or clinical research in dermatology and venereology in a high standard clinical or research centre at a country other than their own.

The ultimate goal of the Fellowship is to support the initiation of an academic career by the Fellow/ Young Investigator, to transfer knowledge and technical skills to their home institution and promote the establishment of research collaborations among European and international centres.

How do I apply for a Research Fellowship?

Please consult the Research Fellowship page on the EADV website:

<http://www.eadv.org/project-proposals/submit-research-fellowship>

Projects must be submitted online:

Opening of the Research Fellowship call (round 2017/2018): January 2017

Deadline for project submission: 30 April 2017