

Mastering Technology as a Tool



Sue Rosenthal

Like many people I struggle with the use of advanced technology in my work. Do I need the latest and fastest? Do I have to learn about the newest technology the moment it comes out? How long can I ignore something new before I'm completely left behind?

What has worked for me is to adopt the technology that will serve me well, and forget the rest. I can't afford to become a slave to something that is not going to pay off in saved time and better outcomes. From speaking to many of you, I know you face the same dilemma.

To address your concerns, in this issue of *Wound Care Canada* we present several articles that demonstrate how the right use of

"The right use of technology, in the right circumstances, can lead to excellent patient outcomes and cost savings."

technology, in the right circumstances, can lead to excellent patient outcomes, cost savings, and patient and care-provider satisfaction. The topics range from long-distance videoconferencing for patients who cannot travel to more commonly used techniques that are initially expensive but ultimately cost-effective. We even have a primer for using the Internet effectively to enhance your practice. We encourage you to read the articles and determine if they have

application in your care setting.

But in any health-care situation, technology will not be the final answer. As wound-care professionals you constantly face the challenge of combining the science with the art of healing, which no technology can ever replace. The articles in this issue demonstrate that, despite the successful use of technology, the art of healing is irreplaceable. ☺

Sue Rosenthal, Editor

La maîtrise de la technologie : un outil

Comme bien d'autres, j'ai des réticences à utiliser la technologie de pointe dans mon travail. Ai-je vraiment besoin de l'ordinateur le plus puissant et le plus rapide? Est-il vraiment nécessaire que j'apprenne la toute dernière technologie dès sa sortie? Pendant combien de temps puis-je résister aux nouveautés avant d'être complètement dépassée?

Pour ma part, j'ai décidé d'adopter la technologie qui me sera utile et d'oublier le reste. Je ne peux me permettre de devenir esclave d'un outil qui ne me fera pas gagner de temps et ne me procurera pas de meilleurs résultats. Par mes échanges avec bon nombre d'entre vous, je sais que je ne suis pas la seule à me trouver prise dans ce genre de dilemme.

En ce qui vous concerne, le présent numéro de *Wound Care*

« En utilisant la technologie judicieusement et dans le bon contexte, il est possible d'obtenir d'excellents résultats pour les patients en plus de réduire les coûts. »

Canada contient plusieurs articles qui démontrent comment le bon usage de la technologie, dans les bonnes circonstances, peut donner d'excellents résultats en plus d'être économique et de satisfaire autant les patients que ceux qui les soignent. On y parle de vidéoconférences à distance pour les patients qui ne peuvent se déplacer et de techniques plus largement utilisées qui sont coûteuses au départ, mais qui s'avèrent économiques avec le temps. Nous vous proposons aussi des notions élémentaires pour améliorer votre pratique par

l'utilisation d'Internet. À la lecture, vous pourrez déterminer dans quelle mesure ces articles s'appliquent à votre contexte.

Mais il demeure que la technologie n'aura jamais réponse à tout. Comme professionnels du soin des plaies, vous devez toujours combiner la science à l'art de soigner, ce qu'aucune technologie ne pourra jamais faire. Les articles de ce numéro montrent que, malgré le succès indéniable de la technologie, l'art de soigner reste irremplaçable. ☺

Sue Rosenthal, Rédactrice

Sue Rosenthal, BA, MA,
specializes in health
and wellness
communications and
has been associated
with the CAWC
since 2000.



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The Canadian Association of Wound Care is a non-profit organization of health-care professionals, industry participants, patients and caregivers dedicated to the advancement of wound care in Canada.

The CAWC was formed in 1995, and its official meeting is the CAWC annual conference held in Canada each year. The association's efforts are focused on five key areas: public policy, clinical practice, education, research and connecting with the international wound-care community. The CAWC works to significantly improve patient care, clinical outcomes and the professional satisfaction of wound-care clinicians.

L'Association canadienne du soin des plaies est un organisme sans but lucratif regroupant des professionnels de la santé, des gens de l'industrie, des patients et des membres du personnel soignant fortement intéressés à l'avancement des connaissances pour le soin des plaies au Canada.

Fondée en 1995, l'ACSP organise, chaque année, au Canada, un congrès qui lui tient lieu de réunion officielle, le Congrès annuel de l'ACSP. L'association consacre ses efforts dans cinq domaines particuliers : les politiques gouvernementales, la pratique clinique, la formation, la recherche et la création de liens avec la communauté internationale directement impliquée dans le soin des plaies. L'Association canadienne du soin des plaies vise une amélioration significative du soin donné au patient, des résultats cliniques et de la satisfaction professionnelle des spécialistes en soin des plaies.

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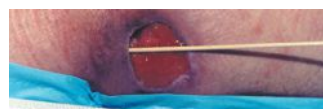
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Editor/Rédactrice

Sue Rosenthal

E-mail: WCCeditor@cawc.net

Associate Editor/Rédacteur adjoint

Catherine Harley

French Editor/

Rédacteur pour la version française

Louise Doucet

Scientific Advisor/

Conseiller scientifique

Shane Inlow, MD

Publisher/Éditeur

BCS Communications Ltd.

101 Thorndiffe Park Drive

Toronto, ON M4H 1M2

Editorial Advisory Board/

Comité consultatif de rédaction

Pamela Houghton, BScPT, PhD

David H. Keast, MSc, MD, FCFP

Heather Orsted, RN, BN, ET

Advertising Sales/Publicité et vente

Steinman and Company

Phone: 416-782-2350

E-mail: WCCadvertising@cawc.net

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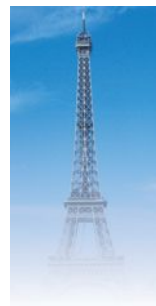
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