

BPR Briefs . . .

By Popular Demand

The Wounds Canada Best Practice Recommendations (BPRs) are resources developed by wound care experts based on the most up-to-date research findings, including expert opinion. The goal of these documents is to better inform delivery of care across all health-care settings.

The BPR library currently includes the following:

- Skin: Anatomy and Physiology and Wound Healing
- Prevention and Management of Wounds
- Prevention and Management of Pressure Ulcers, Diabetic Foot Ulcers, Open Surgical Wounds, Burns and Skin Tears

There are more to come, including recommendations on care for venous leg ulcers, arterial wounds, and moisture-associated skin damage.

These BPRs have been widely used as guides by clinicians not only in Canada but also around the world.

They follow the five key steps in the wound prevention and management cycle (WPMC), which was introduced in the BPR for the Prevention and Management of Wounds:

Step 1: Assess and/or reassess the patient, the environment and the system.

Step 2: Set goals addressing skin integrity, wound healing and additional factors.

Step 3: Assemble an integrated team, including the patient, family and caregivers.

Step 4: Establish and implement a plan of care addressing factors, co-factors and local wound care.

Step 5: Evaluate outcomes and ensure sustainability.

Due to the complex nature of wounds and wound prevention, these articles are comprehensive and therefore tend to be long. But in the next few months you will begin to see something new, BPR Briefs, which will appear on the Wounds Canada website adjacent to the BPRs. These are shorter documents that will capture elements that will capture components of the associated BPRs. To ensure a complete appreciation of prevention and management strategies for a specific wound type, the clinician should be well versed in the full BPR, but BPR Briefs can

offer quick and efficient access to “cues for care.”

As always, our goal is to ensure that the most recent evidence and advice for the prevention and management of wounds is available and usable for clinicians, health-care leaders and educators, as well as government policy makers.

BPRs and soon-to-come BPR Briefs are just two of the tools Wounds Canada provides.

For additional tools, visit the Wounds Canada website at www.woundscanada.ca.

