



POSITION PAPER ON ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP IN WOUND CARE

We are proud to announce that EWMA, together with the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (BSAC), have embarked on a mission against antimicrobial resistance, and are now to write a joint position paper on antimicrobial stewardship in wound management. The position paper is due to be published and presented at the EWMA Conference 2016. 'We are extremely pleased with this collaboration' says Prof Finn Gottrup, who will be EWMA's senior author of

the document, and continues 'We strongly believe that antimicrobial stewardship is an essential key in the fight against antimicrobial resistance. Yet, while the concept is now being adopted across most healthcare settings, it is still as good as unknown to wound care professionals, but with help from BSAC we will work to get this implemented in wound care.'

This is the second collaboration between the

Leading author of the upcoming joint BSAC/EWMA Position Statement on Antimicrobial Stewardship in Wound Management Prof. Benjamin Lipsky in discussion with the two session chairs; EWMA Past President, Prof. Finn Gottrup and BSAC President, Prof. Dilip Nathwani at the BSAC/EWMA Joint Symposium on Antimicrobial Stewardship in Wound Management, EWMA 2015 conference.



Interview with Prof. Dr. Finn Gottrup, Senior Author of the BSAC/EWMA Position Paper on Antimicrobial Stewardship in Wound Care

By Klaus Boberg Pedersen, EWMA Secretariat

About BSAC

BSAC is an inter-professional organisation with 40 years of experience and achievement in antibiotic education, research and leadership, dedicated to saving lives through appropriate use and development of antibiotics now and in the future. BSAC communicates effectively about antibiotics and antibiotic usage via workshops, professional guidelines and its own high impact international journal.

More information: www.bsac.org.uk and www.ewma.org

two organisations, which was kick-started at the EWMA conference back in May with the hugely successful **Joint Symposium on Antimicrobial Stewardship in Wound Management**.

The relationship is considered mutually beneficial for both organisations. BSAC is entirely dedicated to the issues concerning antimicrobial use, and has been spearheading the agenda by advocating the need for the effective use of antimicrobials. However, collaborating with practitioners' associations like EWMA allows for the messages of the stewardship concept to be brought directly to the clinicians who are acting in the centre of the resistance problem.

During the recent decade, countless guidelines on antimicrobial prescription have been published, and as BSAC President Prof Dilip Nathwani pointed out during his talk at the stewardship symposium at EWMA in London, publishing yet another guideline will not solve the problem of antimicrobial misuse and subsequent development of resistance. Instead, the critical com-

ponents of successful antimicrobial stewardship programmes are education and cultural change. In recognition of this, BSAC shows the way by launching the world's first Massive Open Online Course on Antimicrobial Stewardship in partnership with the FutureLearn platform. This free of charge course was recently launched, and is open for all health professionals with interest and prior experience in the prevention, diagnosis and management of infection.

Empower yourself to provide safe, high-quality antibiotic use and sign up here:

www.futurelearn.com/courses/antimicrobial-stewardship

EWMA ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME

Antimicrobial stewardship programmes are increasingly advocated as a means to decrease misuse of antimicrobial agents. Along with infection prevention and control, hand hygiene and surveillance, antimicrobial stewardship is considered a key strategy in local and national programmes to prevent the emergence of antimicrobial resistance and decrease preventable healthcare associated infection.

The overall aim of EWMA's antimicrobial stewardship programme is to reduce inappropriate use and overuse of antimicrobials in wound care by promoting, facilitating and teaching good antimicrobial practice. With a focus on the health professional's role in the area of appropriate use of antimicrobials across health care settings, the programme is targeting health professionals involved with wound care - doctors, nurses, pharmacists, microbiologists, but also reaching out to policy makers, such as clinical administrators or managers at local, regional or national level. ■

