



Press Release

For immediate release

November 28th 2014

Evidence-based best practice compendium on lower limb care given the go ahead

The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation (LLCF) has been awarded a grant by the Department of Health in order to produce a Best Practice Compendium on lower limb care. The grant award was announced by Earl Howe, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Quality at the 14th Annual Leg Club Conference which took place in September this year.

The grant will enable the Foundation to undertake a project to identify and assess best practice in lower limb care among its nurses and volunteers. As a result of this research the Foundation will be able to produce, share and promote an evidence based compendium of best practice. The LLCF aims to use this information to develop a plan to improve the training and support which volunteers and nurses receive. This will ensure leg care practice and health outcomes are

improved globally across the worldwide network of Leg Clubs and that knowledge is shared both within the Leg Club network and among the wound care community.

The compendium of Best Practice will be composed by Deborah Glover, editor of the Primary Care Nursing Review and former Lindsay Leg Club Foundation Trustee with Sylvie Hampton a Tissue Viability Consultant.

Lifetime president of the LLCF, Ellie Lindsay said: “We are delighted that the Department of Health has awarded us this grant. It will enable the Foundation to provide evidence-based best practice in the area of lower limb care. Despite the number of people affected by leg ulcers it is an area of healthcare that is often overlooked and our compendium will help improve health outcomes for those with lower limb conditions not just physically, but with a holistic approach that is currently too often omitted from patient care.”

Notes to editors:

1)

Leg ulcers (and other chronic leg problems like lymphoedema) can affect people at any age, but are particularly common in people over 60. At present, over 80 per cent of all leg ulcers are treated in patients' own homes by district nurses or by practice nurses in GP surgeries. However, patients often find it difficult to adhere to treatment plans, or to maintain the preventive measures needed to avert recurrence of the ulcer. Many leg ulcers consequently reoccur, or remain unhealed for many months or even years.

2)

The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation exists to promote the national development of Leg Clubs. The Foundation also provides the necessary support and training for nurses to establish Leg Clubs and follow the Foundation's guidelines, as well as on-going training in new developments in leg care.

3)

The Leg Club is an innovative model of care that has been shown to improve the health and wellbeing of people with chronic leg conditions. By healing chronic leg wounds and keeping them healed, Leg Clubs also have the potential to save commissioners up to 80 per cent of their wound care budget in comparison with

conventional leg ulcer treatment. A Leg Club is a local partnership between community nurses, patients and members of the community. Run by a committee of members and local people, each Leg Club operates according to strict guidelines of care, monitored by the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation. The Leg Club title, the wording and logo are protected by Registered Trade Mark in the UK and Australia.

For further information about the Leg Club Foundation and Leg Clubs visit:

www.legclub.org

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