



## **Press Release**

For immediate release

6<sup>th</sup> January 2014

### **Lindsay Leg Club Foundation appoints new chief executive**

The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation (LLCF) will be led by a new chief executive from January 2014. Julie Carr, a former nurse, joins the LLCF bringing with her a keen interest in and sound knowledge of wound care following a long career in the sector.

Julie, previously employed by Maersk Medical Ltd, Scholl and Urgo Ltd, has a vast experience of working with and training tissue viability nurses, leg ulcer specialists and community and hospital nurses. In 2012 she established a Managing Chronic Oedema Course in partnership with the University of Hertfordshire through which she shared her expertise and understanding of lower limb care with participants to improve both outcomes and quality of life for their patients.

For the last nine years she was employed at Activa Healthcare, where she first came into contact with the Foundation through the Leg Club Industry Partnership programme. As part of her role as Sales Director for Activa, Julie ran workshops at the Leg Club annual conferences, but also found herself volunteering to attend more Leg Club events during her own time.

Leg Clubs, which are based on an award-winning model founded by former district nurse Ellie Lindsay, treat patients in a non-medical social setting and on a drop-in basis. Evidence shows this style of treatment leads to improved healing rates by encouraging members to become more involved in their care.

Julie will have an excellent start to her tenure as 2013 has been a very successful year for the Foundation. Its 23<sup>rd</sup> Leg Club was opened in Brentwood, Essex while in Devon, Barnstaple Leg Club became the first ever Leg Club to be commissioned by a CCG.

Julie said: "I am delighted to have this opportunity to work for the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation and aim to use my experience of working within the NHS to build on the fantastic work it has achieved to date. I really hope to drive the concept of Leg Clubs, encouraging health care providers everywhere to see their benefits in terms of managing the treatment of leg ulcers and associated conditions in such a way that improves patient experience and is more cost effective."

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 ongoing 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](http://www.legclub.org)**

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