

Book Review

Title: Leg Ulcers and Problems of the Lower Limb: An Holistic approach

Authors: Ellie Lindsay and Richard White (Eds)

Year of publication: 2008

Publisher: Wounds UK Publishing

Reviewer: Associate Professor Bill McGuiness

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Overall Impression

It is not often than one is asked to review a text that provides innovative solutions to patient problems assoc tied with leg ulceration as opposed to pathological problems. This text addresses the “hidden” challenges faced by patients with chronic wounds including the lived experience, the effects on perception of self, quality of life and community management. The utility of the text is extended further with a focus on “practical” issues which incorporates necessary pathology and treatments options described in a very pragmatic manner.

Presentation:

The book is easy to read and the change of writing styles between chapter authors does not detract from the publication. The inclusion of colour photographs and flow diagrams help to illustrate key points made in the text. The chapter titles closely align with the content presented and the index facilitates timely access to specific material.

Content:

The content is well research and relevant references provided. The topics covered provide a comprehensive review of available literature for lower limb conditions. Contributing authors will be known to the reader because of their extensive publications in this area. I thought the section on wound pain could have appeared earlier in the text but being the last chapter at least makes it easy to find.

Application:

The material is presented using a very practical approach. Reference to relevant theory is made but the focus for the text is clinical application. The use pf plain language definitions for conditions such as Eczema or Charcot foot would enable clinicians with varying backgrounds to understand the material. The use of flow diagrams e.g. venous stasis further highlight the concepts being described and provide a quick reference point for busy clinicians. Overall, an excellent reference for clinicians wanting to provide comprehensive management of clients with lower limb ulceration.

