

New Year resolutions: tissue viability in 2005

Having just entered a new year what can we hope for the tissue viability world in 2005? Perhaps before looking at this we should turn our minds back and look at last year's wish list! For example Helen Orchard and I prepared an editorial for the first issue of this Journal last year¹ in which we stressed the need for standard audit of pressure ulcers. A year later and little if any progress has been made. Is this the fate of all New Year resolutions – to be forgotten by the end of January when the 'real world' of work consumes everyone's time?

One other theme at the start of 2004 was the growing awareness of all wound care organisations that they operate within an increasingly competitive environment where each group seeks to gain a share of the apparently smaller pot of commercial funding and support. This is one resolution where progress has been made; the Chairs of several associations (including the Tissue Viability Society) have been meeting to discuss areas where concerted actions would be mutually beneficial. The Tissue Viability Society has even gone further and associated its annual conference with a major European conference to be held in Aberdeen in May 2005. Working with the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel is of clear benefit to the Tissue Viability Society, and vice versa. Both organisations benefit from the shared administration of the event, the access to each other's members to swell delegate numbers and our commercial members gain from having one event to attend in May rather than two. These are all tangible benefits from cooperation – hopefully in 2005 we will see further examples of closer working between associations – it is to the benefit of all when this happens.

What else can we expect to see in 2005? Although it is still 3 years away the planning for the 3rd World Union of Wound Healing Societies will gather pace during the next 12 months. How should organisations such as the Tissue Viability Society respond to the challenge of remaining successful within our natural environment – the UK – while not neglecting our responsibility to the embryonic World Union given that we are probably the longest established wound care/tissue viability organisation worldwide? This

issue of the Journal is pleased to reproduce selected abstracts from UK delegates to the 2nd World Union of Wound Healing Societies held last summer in Paris. We hope that in 2008 the Tissue Viability Society will be strongly represented in both the planning and the delivery of presentations in the next World Union event.

This coming year brings new opportunities and challenges for this Journal. From the next issue we will have a new publisher and as Editor, I am very much looking forward to developing a strong relationship with our new colleagues. However, it is also with sadness that the editorial board say farewell to Rebecca Linssen, who, as part of MA Healthcare, has worked with us on producing this journal over the last few years. The Editorial Board, I and all the authors of publications in this Journal would like to thank Rebecca for her support and enthusiasm for the *Journal of Tissue Viability*. We would also like to thank Edward Rusling who championed the concept of the *Journal of Tissue Viability* working with MA Healthcare. Without his support the success and continual improvement of the Journal over the last few years would probably not have happened. Change is always challenging but we look forward to working with new publishers in 2005 and beyond. With a change of publisher may come a change of Editor – the Trustees of the Tissue Viability Society and the Editorial Board are aware of my view that an orderly transition between editors should occur in 2005. If any member of the Society, any Editorial Board member or Trustee would be interested in finding out more about editing this Journal and after the appointment process is complete, to work with me over 2005 as Deputy Editor replacing me as the year progresses then don't hesitate to get in touch with me informally.

Michael Clark
Editor

¹ Clark M, Orchard H. Do we take pressure ulcers seriously enough? *Journal of Tissue Viability* 2004; 14(1): 2.