

Wound Healing and Podiatry

BY BARRY H. BLOCK, DPM, JD

Over the past few decades, podiatric medicine and surgery have made tremendous strides. Podiatrists have become increasingly an essential part of the healthcare team. Nowhere is this more evident than in wound care. Anatomically, the foot is subject to wounds more than any other part of the body. The blood vessels and nerve fibers are the smallest, while the forces from ambulation are the greatest. Add in the effects of diabetes and obesity in an aging population and you have a recipe for disaster.



For those reasons, we are proud to present our annual wound healing issue. In it you'll find a plethora of interesting and up-to-date articles on the latest concepts in wound healing. While many podiatrists are already involved in wound healing, it's never too late to enhance your knowledge in this growing field and incorporate new concepts into your practice. Podiatrists are a critical part of the many wound care organizations providing wound care certification. We encourage you to become certified in this area.

Wound healing is also a good area to promote student recruitment as it presents an opportunity to show prospective podiatrists the increasing scope of what we treat. In that vein, you are urged to read our cover story, "Student Recruitment—The Future of Podiatry Is in Your Hands" by Jon Hultman, DPM, MBA. Dr. Hultman's article (page 71) takes a comprehensive look at the student recruitment crisis and has gathered the opinions of many of the key stakeholders regarding how to solve it. We hope that these insights will motivate you to get involved in this crucial battle for the long-term survival of podiatry.

Respectfully Submitted,

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