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SKIN AND WOUND INTEGRITY MODEL OF CARE (SWIM): AN INNOVATIVE, INTEGRATED, PATIENT-CENTRED MODEL FOR WOUND MANAGEMENT ACROSS ONE LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT IN THE SYDNEY METROPOLITAN AREA – THE VIEW FROM A NURSE PRACTITIONER PERSPECTIVE

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Introduction: The incidence of complex wounds is high and wound management is a significant expense for patients and health services. In addition, a wound has significant impact on quality of life of patients and carers. With early identification of patients at risk, wound incidence and severity can be reduced, improving the patient and carer experience and bringing significant cost savings. A new position of nurse practitioner – chronic and complex wound management (NPCCWM) was created as part of SWIM.

Aim: With proactive wound management the patient and carer experience can be improved, wound healing times can be reduced therefore resulting in significant cost savings. This model of care proposes an integrated approach to the prevention and management of complex wounds within NSLHD. Providing patient-centred, interdisciplinary wound and skin integrity management, this model of care will measure wound prevention and management activity and outcomes in response to this new model of care and how the introduction of the NPCCWM has impacted service delivery.

Methods: Mixed method

Progress: The model will be described (and the outcomes to be measured) to demonstrate changes in response to the new model of care. This will include 1) patient and carer: level of engagement and satisfaction with wound prevention and management, access to wound services, quality of care in wound prevention and management, reduced healing times and reduction of wound recurrence. 2) Organisational: nurse practitioner- chronic and complex wound management, clinical practice and documentation standards, work force training, cost-efficiencies and clinician satisfaction

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Biography

Catherine Johnson has worked extensively in the field of wound management, plastic reconstructive surgery, ENT, head and neck surgery in the London (where she trained) and in Australia. She has a Master of Nursing Nurse Practitioner from Sydney University and is a Guest Lecturer for many organisations, including University of Technology Sydney. The ministry of health and primary health networks across NSW. She currently works as a Nurse Practitioner in Complex Wound Management in the community setting and is the Clinical Lead for the Skin and Wound Integrated Model of Care, which she will talk to us about today.

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