



AHRA Wound Care Initiative

An Australian Health Research Alliance (AHRA) special initiative is looking to address current wound care challenges, improve patient outcomes and lower the health burden of wound care in Australia.

Our aspiration

Every Australian with a wound receives the same high standard of care no matter who they are, where they are, or who is treating them.

Our goal

We aim to address key challenges and barriers - at systemic, policy and practice levels - in order to reduce the economic and health burden of wound care (currently approximately \$3 billion annually for chronic wounds affecting more than 400,000 Australians in hospital and residential aged care alone).

Initiative leaders

Two of AHRA's members, Health Translation Queensland (HTQ) and the Western Australian Health Translation Network (WAHTN) are co-leading this initiative on behalf of AHRA.

Initiative partners

This initiative involves a unique partnership between AHRA and Wounds Australia, the national peak body made up of professionals, supporters and volunteers whose goal is to reduce the harm caused by wounds.



Our approach

Achieving this goal will require collaboration between government, community and industry, and changes to both policy and practice. We are building an evidence base and resources to drive these changes through four important programs:

- 1) Ascertaining the actual cost of wound care based on best product and best practice, which will inform policy, planning and potential reimbursement of wound care costs through MBS. Led by WAHTN with input from HTQ.
- 2) Delivering updated wound care standards incorporating the latest national and international guidelines (co-designed with all wound care stakeholders), and a new self-audit tool for use by practitioners, service agencies, regulators and funders. Led by WAHTN.

3) Providing a resource of ongoing wound care related courses Australia-wide to support effective planning, prudent investment and streamlined access. Led by HTQ and Monash Partners.

4) Working with government, community and stakeholders to prepare an independent 5-10 year program of research based on reviewing existing research, determining knowledge gaps and prioritising knowledge needs. Led by HTQ.

How you can contribute

- Find out more through the AHRA website at <http://ahra.org.au>
- Get in touch with us to provide your thoughts and ideas. Email HTQ on communications@healthtranslationqld.org.au or WAHTN on info@wahtn.org
- Share this information with your networks



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The Australian Health Research Alliance (AHRA) is the voice of seven Advanced Health Research and Translation Centres and three Centres for Innovation in Regional Health - all accredited by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Each centre is a partnership of multiple health services, connected to research centres and universities. Collectively AHRA's members encompass more than 90% of researchers and 80% of acute health care services across Australia.

AHRA is uniquely positioned to address unmet needs in healthcare by helping researchers work with healthcare providers and consumers to deliver evidence-based care that offers better outcomes, best value and equity of provision.

Learn more ahra.org.au