SDMA
SURGICAL DRESSING MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

PATIENTS COMMUNITY
PRACTICE AND DISTRICT NURSES
LEG CLUB®
www.legclub.org

The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation
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Press Release

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The Lindsay Leg Club® Foundation announces partnership with Surgical Dressing Manufacturers Association (SDMA)

The Leg Club Foundation (LLCF) is delighted to announce an innovative partnership agreement with the Surgical Dressing Manufacturers Association. The purpose of this collaborative working partnership is to promote the fact that the two organisations, supported by Leg Club Industry Partners (LCIP) are working together to achieve the same goal; to provide a better quality of life for individuals with lower limb and foot conditions and leg ulcers.

The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation was created to relieve suffering from leg ulcers and associated conditions. It does this by facilitating the award-winning psychosocial Leg Club model of care that motivates and empowers individuals to take ownership of their care, alleviate their suffering and reduce the stigma attached to their condition.

The SDMA supports companies that manufacture or distribute wound management and associated products within the UK and Ireland. Set up 80 years ago, its member companies range in size from small family companies to major multinational organisations. The SDMA acts as a voice for this membership wherever there are issues that affect the wound care market as a whole.

Wound care is a complex area, requiring a significant number of product types to be available along with professional healthcare expertise to determine the best wound care plans and treatments. Many SDMA members are also Leg Club Industry Partners (LCIP) so an agreement between the LLCF and the SDMA brings together viewpoints from both the wound care third sector and industry to form an aligned voice to influence policy and decision makers.

The Foundation and the SDMA also recognise the priority and importance of education in primary and allied health care for urban and rural communities in the UK and internationally. Through this new partnership there will be reciprocal linking of websites and promotion of relevant educational events, articles, newsletters and publications as well as through social media to create a comprehensive range of resources. Both organisations hope to bring about genuine improvement to this education and consequently an improved quality of life for those experiencing lower limb conditions and leg ulcers.

Mike Hoskins, Chair, LLCF said: “Our partnership agreement with the SDMA sets out the basis on which we can work to our mutual benefit, whilst preserving the Foundation’s objectives. By defining our relationship with industry in this way we can help promote patient advocacy and have a voice, together.”

Paul Goodman, Chair, SDMA said: “The SDMA is delighted to be partnering with The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation. This partnership will combine the strengths of both organisations with the ultimate aim of providing a better quality of life for individuals with associated problems of the lower limb and leg ulcers. It is an exciting time for all those involved.”

Notes to editors:

1) Leg ulcers (and other chronic leg problems like lymphoedema) can affect people at any age, but are particularly common in people over 60. At present, over 80 per cent of all leg ulcers are treated in the individuals' own homes by district nurses or by practice nurses in GP surgeries. However, people often find it difficult to adhere to treatment plans, or to maintain the preventive measures needed to avert recurrence of the ulcer. Many leg ulcers consequently reoccur, or remain unhealed for many months or even years.

2) The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation exists to promote the national development of Leg Clubs. The Foundation also provides the necessary support and training for nurses to establish Leg Clubs and follow the Foundation's guidelines, as well as ongoing training in new developments in leg care.

3) The Leg Club is an innovative model of care that has been shown to improve the health and wellbeing of people with chronic leg and foot conditions. The Leg Club is an innovative model of care that has been shown to improve the health and wellbeing of people with chronic leg and foot conditions. Recent findings from Leg Club data analysis has identified that potential savings could be made by healthcare providers in relation to their wound care budget. A Leg Club is a local partnership between practice and community nurses, patients and the community. Run by a committee of volunteers each Leg Club operates according to strict guidelines of care, monitored by the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation. The Leg Club title, the wording and logo are protected by Registered Trademark in the UK.

The SDMA exists to serve and promote the collective interests of its member companies, all of whom manufacture and / or distribute wound management products within the UK & Republic of Ireland.

The SDMA is founded on the ethos of being run by its members for its members and operates in the spirit of being truly inclusive and equitable, providing members with equal voice regardless of company size and commercial stature.

The SDMA provides a strong and unified voice for industry, leveraging political and commercial influence on current and significant matters affecting the wound care market. It adopts a pro-active approach on many issues and its activities are both diverse and far-reaching, operating permanent General and Technical committees, which may then be augmented by other special committees / work groups as required.

For further information about the Leg Club Foundation and Leg Clubs visit: www.legclub.org

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For further information about the SDMA please visit www.dressings.org.uk or email sdma@dressings.org