

9 February 2022

Ms Jo Wilkie
Manager, National Projects
Western Australian Health Translation Network
Level 6, 6 Verdun Street
Nedlands WA 6009

Via email: jo.wilkie@uwa.edu.au

Dear Ms Wilkie,

Re: Review of Draft Australian Standards for Wound Prevention and Management 2022

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) welcomes the opportunity to provide comment on the *Review of the Draft Australian Standards for Wound Prevention and Management 2022*. The draft Standards are comprehensive and describe best practice-care standards in detail. We offer the following general comments regarding the consultation draft.

Level of evidence behind recommendations

While well-referenced, no critical appraisal of the evidence, or information on the approach used (e.g. Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluations (GRADE)) has been included. The strength of the recommendations, or if the recommendations are 'consensus statements', should be clearly stated.

Target audience

These Standards have been developed for well-resourced, urban, specialist wound care services. Expensive assessment technologies such as toe brachial pressure index and trans cutaneous oxygen pressure are used to manage predominantly complex chronic wounds not commonly seen in general practice. While the included tools and surveys are helpful, the RACGP recommends the Standards include recommendations relevant to the primary care setting.

The target clinicians are also expected to engage in education-provision, audit, and research specific to wound care, which may not be realistic in a busy practice.

Additionally, the Standards should support aged care, with a set of recommendations for resources required for wound prevention and management in this specific setting.

Assessment of conditions

The draft Standards focus on assessment of psychosocial, nutritional, and co-morbid conditions, and less on their management. The Standards would benefit from including further information on how to best manage these conditions to ensure they are useful for general practice.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide a submission to the *Review of the Draft Australian Standards for Wound Prevention and Management 2022*. If you have any questions regarding our submission, please contact Mr Stephan Groombridge, National Manager, e-health and Quality Care at stephan.groombridge@racgp.org.au or 03 8699 0544.

Yours sincerely



Dr Karen Price
President