

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## WOUNDS AUSTRALIA FIGHTS FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Wounds Australia, the nation's peak body for wound prevention and management, has used today's launch of *Wound Awareness Week 2020* to invite everyone with an interest in wound care to join their community of members.

Representing and supporting health care professionals, scientists and students, Wounds Australia says its membership drive will build the numbers to deliver change and improvement to policies and systems that cost taxpayers billions of dollars a year.

Wounds Australia CEO Blake Wilson said every available professional was needed as a member to ensure they could deliver results.

"For less than the cost of buying one newspaper per week, you can join Wounds Australia and make sure we have a voice loud enough for politicians to hear," Blake Wilson said.

"We know every single person makes a difference. The bigger Wounds Australia is, the more effective we are at opening doors and changing government policy on chronic wounds.

"Every year, around 420,000 Australians suffer a chronic wound. Treatment costs the health and aged care budgets over \$3 billion. With a different approach, forecasts indicate thousands could have wounds prevented and costs would be slashed significantly.

"We will make sure politicians understand the dedication and impact of people who treat wounds. We will make it absolutely clear better funding and support is needed.

"When politicians understand greater investment in the people and industries that treat wounds could actually save billions of dollars and change thousands of lives, Wounds Australia members will have made a massive difference to Australia's health and wellbeing.

"And it means Wounds Australia has again helped every member to have the career and deliver the high quality of care they aim for," Blake Wilson said.

Wounds Australia members can access benefits that will grow their expertise including:

- scholarships and grants
- cutting edge information and resources on wound management and care
- the quarterly *Wounds Practice & Research Journal* and fortnightly email news
- access to our specialist e-magazine *WoundConnect*.

Wounds Australia typically represents:

- Doctors
- Nurses
- Pharmacists
- Podiatrists
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers
- Diabetes Educators
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational therapists
- Dieticians.

Membership is now open to anyone with an interest in wound care, including scientists and students. This expands the ability for Wounds Australia to deliver change and act as a conduit for knowledge exchange.

To give everyone a taste of membership benefits, Wounds Australia is opening up its resources for *Wound Awareness Week* (17 – 23 August 2020) and making its webinars publicly available.

For information on joining Wounds Australia and to access online resources and webinars, visit [www.woundsaustralia.com.au](http://www.woundsaustralia.com.au).

**ENDS**

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