



Wound Telehealth Poster Wins Second Place!

The Inpatient Wound Care Team of Mission Hospital, Asheville, North Carolina, received a second place award for their wound telehealth poster at the annual conference of the Southeast Region of the Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses (WOCN®) Society. Held August 25-27, 2016, in Greensboro, North Carolina, the conference drew attendees from the southeast region of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

The poster, Using Telehealth Technology to Extend the Reach of the WOC Nurse into Underserved Practice Settings, highlighted a telehealth pilot on seven nursing units. Remote bedside assessment of wounds was conducted using a tablet device with HIPAA compliant software for secure data transmission and interactive video conferencing. The treatment plan, developed in collaboration with the wound care nurse, the patient and their family and the primary care nurse, was assessed for fidelity during a bedside visit from the office wound care nurse.

Evaluation of the 28 pilot cases showed no treatment plan alterations were indicated. Other outcomes include the potential of telehealth technology to facilitate the delivery of high quality wound assessment and management across multiple underserved areas. The project will be expanded across Mission Health rural acute, home health and long-term care settings in western North Carolina.



Members of the wound telehealth project, pictured here, are from the Inpatient Wound Care department unless specified otherwise (left to right): Front row--**Jim DeGrave**, RN, CWON; **Angie Wilson**, BSN, RN, CWON; **Lori Hedrick**, BSN, RN, CWON; **Jennifer Kaylor**, BSN, RN, CWON (poster presenter at the August WOCN® Society conference); Back row---**Colleen Rockstroh**, BSN, RN, CWON; **June Case**, BSN, RN, CWON; **Beth Durr**, RN, Clinical Manager, Mission Weight Management; and **Randy Burkert**, Manager, Mission Health Center for Innovation.

Photo by Cherry Odom, BSN, RN-BC