



**SOFTWARE FOR
WOUND MANAGEMENT**

INFORMATION FOR WOUND MANAGEMENT. » A WOUND EXPERT® PUBLICATION

Volume 3, Issue 3

Treatment Protocols and Care Plans in WoundExpert-Part Two

Mary Ann Smeltzer

Director of Clinical Services, Net Health Systems



HELPFUL HINTS

Steps for Entering Product Sub-Categories

1. Log in to WoundExpert and go to the Administration Page.
2. Click on Products
3. If your facility has previously entered Products and Sub-Categories, you should check your existing list of Sub-Categories before you add any new ones to avoid duplication or later finding out that the products you thought were attached to a task are actually attached to some other Sub-Category and do not appear in your

You can delete a Sub-Category at the Facility level. WoundExpert does allow you to enter new Sub-Categories on the fly. You might want to have a Facility policy that dictates who can enter new Sub-Categories and under what conditions to avoid needing to do a major clean-up of your list down the road to remove all your staff "favorite" items.

- task drop-down choices.
4. Click on View All Sub-Categories on the Product Information screen. If the one you want to add is not already listed, you can go ahead and add it from this screen by clicking Add Sub-Category (the green plus sign in the upper right corner).
 5. If you have never used Sub-Categories before - click on Add a Sub-Category in the middle of the Product Information screen.
 6. In the white box, type in the name of the Subcategory and then click Submit.

Although you can delete a Sub-Category at the Facility level, you can't modify one that you misspelled once you enter it, so be sure you spell it correctly and make sure it was not previously entered before you hit "Submit".

Not every Task in your Protocols and Care Plans has or needs a list of Product choices. However, every Task requires you to enter a Sub-Category. It is a good idea to add a Sub-Category specifically for these cases. You can designate it "No Associated Product" or "NA," for example.

Whether you are developing Treatment Protocols or Plans of Care, you start at the same place. You may already have Practice Guidelines, Critical Pathways, Care Maps or Standard Order Sets for your program. If you do, you have a head start. If not, you'll need to get your wound care team together and decide what you consider to be best practice for your program. You should have some evidence-based support for what you do; this is not the place to codify "the way we always do it here" for the sake of posterity. Although there are some areas of discussion and differences of opinion, there is a wealth of documentation now to demonstrate what wound assessment and treatment activities produce the best outcomes in the shortest timeframes for specific wound types. If you've never researched best practice literature before, a good place to start is the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality of the Health & Human Services Department, (AHRQ), website – The National Guidelines Clearinghouse, (NGC), at <http://www.guideline.gov>. You'll find a host of practice guidelines specific to diagnoses and wound types as well as wound care in general. Find the latest version of the ones that best describe what you consider to be the best fit for your setting and patient population. You may need several different ones to cover everything you do and treat in your program.

Once you've decided on your reference guidelines and what patient groups or wound types you want to develop guidelines for in your program, sit down and draft the individual actions for each one. For those situations where you may take different actions depending on assessment data or the goal of treatment, include separate statements in your guideline so that, in an actual practice situation, the care provider can select the one that fits that situation best when customizing the plan of care or protocol for a specific patient. After your team comes to a consensus on the individual tasks for each Plan of Care or Wound Treatment Protocol save a copy of the final product with your reference list attached in case a surveyor or anyone else asks on what you base your care. If you have a paper copy of a policy manual, that's where these should be filed. You should review them every year in case changes are needed. If you have a formal approval process for policies at your facility, you should submit these for approval.

(Continued on page 2)

WoundExpert® EMR



Net Health Systems is excited to begin offering the WoundExpert Electronic Medical Record System (WoundExpert® EMR) to clients nationwide. Over the last six months we have had "early adopters" across the country using this new enhanced version of WoundExpert to replace the paper forms currently used for documentation. It is Net Health Systems' goal to meet all of your JCAHO and CMS documentation needs through many of the new forms created to help with the distinct needs of ambulatory clinics.

The WoundExpert EMR consists of three major documentation areas; Clinical Documentation to track the nursing components of a visit, Risk Documentation to track the different risks posed to patients such as risk for falls, nutrition and neuropathy, and Physician Documentation to document on orders, H&P, and Progress Notes. In conjunction with these modular documentation areas, the WoundExpert EMR also offers a Superbill component to track the ICD-9 and CPT-4 coding.

In addition to the WoundExpert EMR, Net Health can now interface with your existing hospital based software systems such as Epic, Meditech, Cerner and McKesson HBOC. Using the HL7 standard, WoundExpert can both send and receive data in order to help provide a more universally available health record for your patients.

As described in our April 2006 edition of *Progress Notes*, a migration to an Electronic Documentation system is a great way to help improve the documentation at your wound clinic, but one that must be navigated wisely. Our sales team and client support team are available to be sure that the appropriate modules and forms are selected specifically for the way your clinic operates. If you are interested in exploring the WoundExpert® EMR, please contract our client support team at (800) 411-6281 Option 2 to schedule a complete demonstration.

If you have ideas for a future ProgressNotes newsletter, please submit your request to our newsletter staff at feedback@WoundExpert.com.

MORE HELPFUL HINTS

Adding Products and Attaching Them to Sub-Categories

- To add a new product to your database, click the Administration button, click on Products, then click on the Add a Product link located about the middle of the screen under the heading, Products. Only the fields for product name and Sub-Category are mandatory.
- The advantage of adding the unit cost is that when you choose a product in the Treatment Protocols, it will automatically be available to you in cost reports by patient or by wound type. If you deal with managed care companies or are trying to better manage your program budget, these reports are very useful.
- If you have several choices in a Sub-Category, but you prefer that staff and physicians use a particular one whenever possible, you can designate that item as the Default Product for the Sub-Category. Doing so will make this product show up first in the drop down list regardless of its order in the alphabetical list of choices. The User can still pick other choices on the list but they will see this item as the first choice in the list.
- Once all appropriate fields are entered, click Submit.

Treatment Protocols and Care Plans in WoundExpert-Part Two

(Continued from page 1)

You are now ready to put this theoretical information into WoundExpert® so you can streamline your documentation. You'll also be able to run reports on cost of care per patient and per wound type if you attach products with individual item cost to each task.

Entry of Products by categories are listed here in the margins, since both Treatment Protocols and Plan of Care use these. The process for entering Treatment Protocols and Plan of Care items are slightly different so we'll go over them in separate issues of *ProgressNotes*.

You may have noticed that your notes often say the same thing but you change the dressing or other product according to what is ordered for specific patients. It takes a long time to type in those statements every time you see a patient or dress a wound. WoundExpert allows you to preset the generic statements so that all you have to do when charting is to pick the appropriate product from a drop down list. To make that work, you'll need to have a list of your patient care products and develop a list of subcategories that make sense if used with those generic statements you previously developed for your practice guidelines. Each Product can only go in one Sub-Category so choose carefully.

We can provide you with a list of suggested subcategories if you'd like them for reference. For example: Accuzyme, Panafil, and Gladase are all enzymatic debridement agents. You have a statement in your Wound Treatment Protocol that says, "Apply enzymatic debriding agent to wound base." It makes sense to have a subcategory for Enzymatic Debridement Agents listing the 3 products so you can pick whichever one is ordered for your patient on a particular visit.

Here We Grow Again!

Net Health Systems is pleased to announce the addition of Jonathan Androski to our sales team. Jon will manage the Great Lakes territory. Jon has a strong understanding of selling software to smaller companies based on their customized needs, from his experience in specialized software sales.

Regis Staudt has also joined our Operations Team as Controller. Rege will manage accounts receivables, client billing, and contract management, to mention just a few of his many responsibilities.

Now that Rege is handling those issues, Dana Bethune, our former Office Manager, has been promoted to Marketing Manager. Dana will be coordinating all of our trade shows and conferences, planning our advertising and promotions, and helping both our Sales and Client Services teams to serve you even better!

Out and About

Net Health has had a busy conference season!

- Most recently, Net Health attended the WOCN Society 38th Annual Conference, June 24th to the 28th at the Minneapolis Convention Center.
- We also had the pleasure of exhibiting at the Symposium on Advanced Wound Care, April 30 through May 3 at the San Antonio Convention Center. We were proud to be a sponsor of such an important educational experience in wound care.
- Net Health also exhibited at DF Con '06, the second Diabetic Foot Global Conference held at the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel in Los Angeles.
- During the same time, our reps were also at the Hyperbaric Medicine 2006 symposium at the Marriott in Columbia, SC, presented by National Baromedical Services, Inc.

In the future, you can find us at the following events:

- The Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin and Wound Care, at the Disney Coronado Springs Resort, Sept. 28 to Oct. 1. Please stop by booth #419 and say hello!
- The 10th Annual Wound Care Congress, Nov. 10-14, at the Broadmoor Colorado Springs Resort, at booth #315. Patrick Colletti, President of Net Health Systems, has been invited to speak at the Wound Care Congress post-conference session. We hope to see you there!



Thanks to everyone who stopped by our booths to say hello!