



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Burn Model System Newsletter

Summer 2012



Consumer Fact Sheets

In collaboration with other Burn Model System Centers (Johns Hopkins U, U Texas Southwestern, and U Texas Medical Branch-Galveston), we have developed consumer fact sheets. These educational

pamphlets are written by burncare professionals and address common issues encountered during recovery from a burn injury. Currently available fact sheets include Dealing with Burn Pain, Sleep Management, Wound Care & Scar

Management, Social Interactions, and Employment. Burn fact sheets are available online (<http://www.msktc.org/>) and in our outpatient clinic. Fact sheets to be available in the near future include Management of Postburn Itching and Intimacy Issues after a Burn.

Consumer Advisory Board (CAB)

We believe in the value of consumer input and have worked closely with our CAB on issues related to research and education. For the past 10 years we have received reviews from burn

survivors, spouses and parents of survivors. Most recently, this group of volunteers reviewed a research proposal for a competitive Burn Model System's grant. We received

great feedback and believe our proposal is that much stronger due to their efforts. If you would like to join our CAB, email Gretchen Carrougher at carrough@uw.edu.

Provider Profile - Loren Engrav, MD.

Dr. Loren Engrav - a professor in the Dept. of Surgery/Div. of Plastic Surgery and Attending Plastic Surgeon at the University of Washington Regional Burn Center - is retiring after many years of service.

During the past several years, Dr. Engrav has focused on research with studies concerning hypertrophic scarring (the raised, reddened scars that can develop following burn wound healing) and the development of a large animal model for research. This line of research has identified the female, red Duroc pig as a good animal for this purpose and is currently being used by other investigators in the field. In addition, he has studied custom-fit pressure garments following burn injury and published on this topic in 2010 (see

Engrav et al., 12-Year Within-Wound Study of the Effectiveness of Custom Pressure Garment Therapy). This study is one of the largest randomized controlled trials ever completed on this issue. Dr. Engrav is also the primary investigator/project director for the UW Burn Model System Center grants which have received continuous National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) funding since 1994.

Despite the advances in the research field that Dr. Engrav has made, it is likely that he will be remembered for over 35 years of clinical care. Staff and patients know him best for his funny and kind demeanor - and that ever-present bow tie. This true humanitarian will be missed - good luck in retirement Dr. Engrav.

Research Update

Dr. Loren Engrav, as lead author, has just published a 36-year review of burn care at Harborview Medical Center dating back to 1974. To date, this is the largest published review of any one center's experience in the world and reports on a review of over 14,000 patient admissions.

Dr. Engrav speaks to how burn care and prevention efforts have changed over time. He reviews the changing demographics of injury, differences in fluid resuscitation measures, surgical care and mortality. The authors provide insight as to why these changes have come to be.

Many will find this review of interest and we encourage clinicians and other readers to visit the online journal, PLoSOne and read this exciting work. Access this article using the following reference information:

Engrav, Heimbach, Rivara, et al. Harborview burns - 1974 to 2009. PLoS One. 2012;7(7):e40086.

Did You Know?

You should use sunscreens with SPF 15 or greater; apply the lotion or spray liberally 20-30 minutes before going outside and reapply after swimming or a prolonged stay in the sun.

Visit our website at

<https://depts.washington.edu/uwnidrr/> for more information.

To reach the UW/HMC Burn Center Clinic, call 206-744-5735.