



What You Need to Know About the Certified Wound Specialist®

Who is qualified to care for and treat wounds?

Most healthcare professionals have some knowledge on wounds; however there are those select few who have specialized in wound care and management. This specialization is designated the title **Certified Wound Specialist® (CWS®)**.

Who are Certified Wound Specialists?

A CWS® can be a doctor, podiatrist, nurse, or physical therapist. Not only do they possess knowledge in their respective fields, but also they have each earned the title CWS® by demonstrating exceptional knowledge in wound care and management.

Can anyone become a Certified Wound Specialist?

In order to receive this designation, one must go through a vigorous process. Firstly, they must show documented proof that they have a minimum of two to five years experience in the field of wound care. Secondly, they must pass an intensive national board examination administered by the American Academy of Wound Management. Questions range from wound care treatment to the anatomy and physiology of a wound.

What are the benefits of being treated by a CWS®?

You can be assured that you are receiving the highest quality of care. Certified Wound Specialists are required to attend yearly continuing education courses in order to stay up to date on the latest, most effective treatments and on reimbursement laws. This translates in to faster healing times and less money spent on your behalf. Another benefit is the interdisciplinary team approach. CWS's have a vast resource network in which they can refer to one another, confer with one another and work closely together in order to achieve the same outcome—wound closure.

How can I find a CWS® in my area?

You can contact the AAWM at 202-457-8408 or by visiting our website at www.aawm.org.