WoundAide Case study: Improving consistency of wound capture

Background
Management of wounds can be very challenging in the clinical area. Patients with chronic wounds could be treated by multiple healthcare professionals even within the same institution. Without a standardized measurement tool, wound assessment may lack accuracy as they are highly dependent on users. Having consistent captures with photo documentation using a validated instrument would enhance monitoring of the wounds.

Challenges
The lack of accuracy and consistency during the wound measurement and assessment process can lead to delayed healing and treatment. Current practice in the clinical area requires manual measurements, and are user-dependant. Wound care is important to reduce infections and requires trained specialists to do the wound measurements. It is pertinent to identify delayed wound healing process to avoid complications.
Solutions

Konica Minolta has prototyped an automated non-contact handheld device capable of capturing and documenting wounds. WoundAide allows clinicians to catalogue wound image data in real-time and provides an option for 3D rotation. This 3D capture of wound images allows clinicians to have a deeper understanding of the patient’s wounds, particular for wounds that fall on irregular or elliptical surfaces of the body. Additionally the device also provides trend based documentation, allowing clinicians to monitor wounds over a period of time, aiding in clinical decisions.

Conclusion on the Study and User Benefits

The feedback from the wound care specialists involved in the study has been positive.

WoundAide is able to capture clear wound images even in varied lighting conditions within the hospital. WoundAide is mobile. WoundAide is the perfect wound assessment and documentation solution within the hospital. WoundAide can be integrated with the Electronic Medical Records system to provide a seamless wound documentation process. Healthcare professionals will be able to see an overview of both the patient’s medical history and WoundAide documentation. WoundAide together with such integration will contribute to an overall holistic patient’s care and enhance clinical outcomes.