Developing a generic wound specific quality of life tool - enhancing the patient experience

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Consider - What is QoL?

- Physical and Mental Health
- Housing
- Social interactions
- Culture
- Values
- Spirituality
- Change Management
QoL incorporates

- Physical and Mental Health
- Housing
- Social interactions
- Culture
- Values
- Spirituality
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IT'S NOT HOW LONG LIFE IS BUT THE QUALITY OF OUR LIFE THAT IS IMPORTANT.

- ROGER DAWSON
Quality of Life

• Is a broad multidimensional concept that usually includes subjective evaluations of both positive and negative aspects of life
Consider

- Is there a difference between QoL and wellbeing?
Well being

- Wellbeing is a dynamic matrix of factors, including physical, social, psychological and spiritual.

- Influenced by culture and context, and is independent of wound type (International consensus, 2012)
Quality of Life Tools

- General - SF12, SF36, EuroQoL, WHO, HADs

- Condition Specific:
  - Cancer
  - Cardiac
  - Renal
  - Epilepsy
  - Asthma
  - Diabetes

- Disease Specific:
  - Burns
  - Venous Leg
  - Dermatology
Why do we need a generic wound specific tool?

- **Current tools are:**
  - Generic
  - Focus on lower limb
  - Lengthy
  - Disease specific

- **Do not focus on:**
  - Culture
  - Spirituality
  - Housing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tool</th>
<th>General comments</th>
<th>Physical ailments</th>
<th>Psychological/mental health/Well-being</th>
<th>Social Life/family</th>
<th>Can the tool be adapted for all wound types?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiff Wound Impact</td>
<td>Chronic wounds</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charing Cross VLU</td>
<td>Used medical staff to value the questions included in the measure</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freiburger Lebessqualitas</td>
<td>French - not validated in English</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freiburg quality of life in venous diseases</td>
<td>Focus on VLU</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freiburg Life (FLQA)</td>
<td>Focus on dermatology</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chronic Venous Insufficiency</td>
<td>German - not validated in English</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hyland VLU</td>
<td>Only evaluated by a small number of patients - ambiguous</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheffield Preference-based VLU</td>
<td>Unvalidated</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Generic QoL (SF12 etc)</td>
<td>Focus is the medical model of curing rather than the nursing model of caring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What do we need to consider?

- **Emotional and social status:**
  - Wound and side effects of the wound (pain, malodour, exudate)
  - Body image alteration
  - Lack of social contact
  - Discrimination
  - Rejection from family

- Loss of self-confidence

- Depression –
  - Hopelessness
  - Frustration
  - Dissatisfaction
  - Low self-esteem
  - Feelings of dirtiness

- Anxiety, rage
  (González-Consuegra & José Verdu, 2011)
Generic Wound Specific - will include:

- Activities of daily living
  - Location
  - Pain
  - Odour

- Social issues - family/significant others/carer burden

- Mental health

- Culture/spirituality

- Symptom cluster

- Pain, depression, fatigue and sleep
The future

- Will require a team of people to develop
  - Academics, clinicians and patient groups

- Testing for reliability and validity
References

