

## **Wounds and chronic oedema: New evidence from the LIMPRINT study**

Chronic leg oedema and wounds are frequently seen in populations, but the relationship has rarely been considered. The LIMPRINT study database was used to examine differences in patients with and without wounds, all of whom were suffering from chronic oedema.

Of 7077 patients in with chronic leg oedema, 12.70% also had a leg wound. Independent risk factors for the presence of a wound were: peripheral arterial disease (Odds Ratio, OR 4.87), cellulitis within the past 12 months (OR 2.69), secondary lymphoedema (OR 2.64), being male (OR 2.08), being over 85 years of age (OR 1.80), underweight (OR 1.79), bed bound (OR 1.79), chair bound (OR 1.52), diabetic (OR 1.47) and walking with aid (OR 1.41). Well-controlled oedema was associated with lower presence of a wound (OR 0.50). Hard/fibrotic tissue (OR 1.71) and a positive Stemmers sign (OR 1.57) were also associated with wounds.

There is a strong association between chronic leg oedema and wounds. Controlling swelling was associated with a lower risk of leg wounds.