

Research Seminar Series

Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Thursday November 12, 2009, 11:00am

Saving legs and feet for people with Diabetes in Guyana

R. Gary Sibbald, BSc, MD, MEd, FRCPC (Med. Derm.), ABIM, DABD, FAPWCA
Professor of Public Health Sciences and Medicine
Program Director - Wound Prevention & Care, MScCH, University of Toronto
Director of the Wound Healing Clinic and Medical Education, Women's College Hospital

Seminar Description:

The primary care reform project in Toronto and Peel regions demonstrated that a comprehensive interprofessional wound care assessment and treatment program along with the provision of offloading devices significantly improved patient outcomes. The incidence of diabetes is increasing in Guyana South America and the surgeons at Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation were performing numerous major leg amputations weekly. The opening of a diabetic foot ulcer interprofessional clinic along with a comprehensive interactive longitudinal education program linked to outcomes has reduced the amputation rate 43% in the first 11 months of the project. A 60 second Screening Test has identified 40% of diabetic clinic attendees have a high risk of developing a foot ulcer and subsequent amputations requiring a prevention program.

Guest Speaker Biography:



Dr. Sibbald is a professor of Public Health and Medicine at the University of Toronto. He trained as a dermatologist and internist with special interest in wound healing and education. He is currently the director of medical education for Women's College Hospital and chair of the faculty of Medical Education Committee. Dr. Sibbald is a board member and President of the Canadian Association of Continuing Health Education. Presently, Professor Sibbald is the director Wound Healing Clinic at the Women's College Hospital. He established an interprofessional education model for wound care as co-founder, previous chairman and a five-time annual meeting chair of the Canadian Association of Wound Care. Professor Sibbald co-established the International Interdisciplinary Wound Care Course (IIWCC) at the University of Toronto in 1999. This course is the first University of Toronto continuing education course to offer a certificate of completion and combine residential weekends with self-study and a selective that relates new knowledge to everyday practice. This course is currently part of a new Master's Science/Community Health Program in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health. He is co-editor of the *Fourth Edition of Chronic Wound Care: A Clinical Source Book for Healthcare Professionals*. Dr. Sibbald is the president of the World Union of Wound Healing Societies and chairman of the meeting held in Toronto, June 4th to 8th, 2008. Dr. Sibbald has published over 150 articles and book chapters.

Health Sciences Building

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