UPDATE FROM ILF-COM

We want to thank all of you for your input to date into this exciting project and bring you up to date on its progress. It was a long time in the planning and the help received along the way has been so very valuable – from industry’s sponsorship, to the comments from many of you in the writing of the survey questions, to setting up the survey on Survey Monkey, to the translation of the questions into understandable different languages, and to the dissemination of the survey itself.

Twelve countries have agreed to be part of this project and all first interviews with each country are now completed. The survey can now be used in English, Italian, Dutch, Danish, and Turkish. We hope to have French, French Canadian and German translations uploaded in the very near future. From responses we have received so far people have found the survey quick and easy to answer. Patients, who have some of the professional questions blocked out, have had no difficulties with this either. In case you haven’t received it, this is the link to the survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CYSCCKKT

There is also a QR code which I can send you separately if you contact me. With this the survey can be accessed by mobile phone.

The survey has been widely disseminated and thanks for that must go to the co-ordinators in each country – so we know that professional groups, patient support groups, industry, and social media have all been approached and, although we don’t yet know the uptake, we are aware that the survey is out there. Please will you remind those groups you are in contact with to publicise it again in the New Year.

We must also give thanks to industry members who willingly let us interview them to try and understand issues surrounding chronic oedema and reimbursement. From this one paper will be published looking at this subject.

The Literature Search has turned out to be a mammoth project and taking longer than expected, but both people working on it are very committed to providing excellent evidence to this study.

We are pleased to tell you that the Journal of Wound Care has agreed to publish the findings of the survey, literature search, and issues around reimbursement at the conclusion of this part of the study, and before we move forward to ensure that the information we have will contribute to an international strategy for outcome development with you – who our partners, and in the hope that this can drive improvements in all aspects of treatment and reimbursement.

For those of you in the international network who are co-ordinating this project I will be in contact with you early in 2019 to arrange a second interview and hear your comments as well as ironing out any queries you may have. If you need any input before then do please contact us.

With all good wishes to you for 2019 and again our thanks to you all.

Susie Murray on behalf of Christine Moffatt and Susan Noerrgaard