

Comments can be found at: <http://woundcarestakeholders.org/activities-accomplishments/official-comments>

Alliance works with Dr. Sean Tunis' Center for Medical Technology Policy (CMTP) on both the May version "Effectiveness Guidance Document (EGD) on Mechanical Interventions for Chronic Wound Healing" and September version "Devices for Local Treatment of Chronic Wounds" to ensure that it establishes a realistic threshold reflective of current wound care research methodology through the following activities:

- May - June — Marcia Nusgart convenes three conference calls with select Alliance participants and Dr. Tunis regarding its May draft guidance document.
- May and June — Alliance submits two sets of comments - one general and one specific to CMTP on its draft guidance document.
- September — Marcia Nusgart convenes conference call with select Alliance participants and Dr. Tunis regarding concerns with September version of effectiveness guidance document.
- November — Alliance decides to develop a white paper on the conduct of clinical research in the field of wound healing.

Took action and submitted comments on the following Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) Wound Care Draft Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) resulting in positively influencing the final policies.

- April 2009 — Submitted comments on First Coast skin substitutes LCD.
- April 2009 — Submitted comments to Trailblazer bioengineered skin substitutes LCD.
- September 2009 — Submitted comments to Wisconsin Physician Services wound care LCD.

Panel which issued a new CPT code (29581) for "Application of multi-layer venous wound compression system, below the knee" with an APC code of 0058 and reimbursement rate of \$71.03.

MIPPA Mandated Evaluation of Negative Pressure Wound Therapy HCPCS Codes November 2009- Alliance participants successfully worked with AMA CPT

- February 2009 — Submitted comments to CMS and AHRQ on process for the evaluation of the NPWT HCPCS codes.
- July 2009 — Alliance participates in NPWT HCPCS public meeting and submits comments.

Presented united voice by the lymphedema medical community at the November 2009 CMS MedCAC on secondary lymphedema which gave the opportunity for the MedCAC Panel to vote positively that there is both quantity and quality of scientific evidence to demonstrate that pneumatic compression devices provide meaningful clinical outcomes in lymphedema patients.

Worked with FDA by having staff speak at Alliance meeting on MedSun program and by providing input on NPWT survey and sending staff clinicians' names to participate in survey.

