University of Washington Wound Management Education Program
Program Philosophy, Mission, and Goals

The Wound Management Education Program offered through the University of Washington, School of Nursing Office of Continuing Education is designed to prepare nurses to provide expanded wound care services to clients receiving care for chronic and complex acute wounds in a variety of clinical settings in the greater Pacific Northwest region. The program is based on a philosophy and commitment to “life long learning” and advancement of knowledge and to the achievement of this by meeting educational needs of nurses throughout their career as they provide services in existing and emerging health care systems.

The program’s primary mission is to increase available educational opportunities in the specialty of wound management to practicing, baccalaureate prepared nurses who seek to increase their knowledge and skills in this specialty area. The goals of the program are: 1) to provide a comprehensive, state of the science curriculum that is balanced between theoretical and practice components of education to 12-16 participants annually and 2) to improve the quality of wound care services in Washington state and the Pacific Northwest region through the education of these practitioners.

The curriculum is based on the intensive study of a broad range of wounds (venous, arterial, neuropathic and surgical wounds; pressure ulcers; atypical wounds), healing problems (infection, failure to heal); and components of specialized nursing practice (role development, collaboration, patient education, provision of culturally competent care, evidence based practice). The central concepts guiding the course content and practicum experiences are prevention, evaluation, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and re-evaluation of clinical outcomes in adult and older adult patients.