

EWMA 2026 CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

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PHD RESEARCH-IN-PROGRESS

EP808 Prevalence survey and quality of care analysis for complex wounds in the university acute care hospital sector

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Stage of PhD: Leah Dörr (APN Wound care) has been completing her doctoral studies at

University Witten/Herdecke since 202. The doctoral program and the pilot study for the research project have now been completed.

Background: Due to unreported cases and varying/missing prevalence data on chronic

wounds in the acute hospital sector, the potential of this sector to solve the known care deficit remains unclear.

However, this sector represent a previously untapped resource for addressing the lack of diagnostics and structured care concepts for people with chronic wounds.

Aims: The primary aim of the research project is to record the point prevalence of acute and

chronic wounds in a German university hospital. This should provide figures on whether and to what extent this sector has potential in addressing the national care deficit for chronic wounds. The secondary aim is to record the quality of care for hospitalized patients with acute and chronic wounds in acute care in order to determine the extent to which the hospital sector is already being exploited and what barriers currently exist.

Methods & Current progress: A cross-sectional and partial survey study will be conducted

2026 to prospectively evaluate patient data from the University Hospital Bonn (UKB) quantitatively. The study protocol for this was tested in a pilot study in the fourth quarter of 2025.

Nex steps: The pilot study already showed that patients with chronic wounds could be

detected through observation, despite the small number of participants (n = 20). Based on the experiences of the pilot study, the area of reporting on affected individuals and their chronic wound care situation needs to be adjusted.

Anticipated impact/translation: The results of the study will be used to uncover unreported

cases, make structured data usable, and develop improved nurseled pathways for patients with chronic wounds in German acute care hospitals where the APN role is still new.

Ethics: The ethics vote of the University of Bonn has been obtained on September 11, 2025, under file number 2025-334-BO.

EP810 Artificial intelligence-mediated clinical judgement in nursing: A sequential multimethod experimental study on pressure injury prevention in intensive care

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Stage of PhD: Year 3 – Empirical Design Phase

Background: Pressure injuries (PIs) remain a frequent and largely preventable complication in intensive care units, where prevention relies on nurses' clinical judgement under conditions of uncertainty, time pressure and high cognitive load. While artificial intelligence (AI) has been extensively studied for risk prediction, critical gaps remain in understanding how AI-mediated information shapes nurses' reasoning processes, confidence and cognitive workload during preventive decision-making. Current research predominantly evaluates decision outputs or algorithmic accuracy, overlooking the cognitive and judgement-related mechanisms through which AI may support, or inadvertently disrupt, clinical practice in wound care.

Aim: To examine how AI-mediated informational support influences nurses' clinical judgement processes, decision quality, confidence and cognitive workload during PI prevention in intensive care.

Methods & Current Status: This PhD adopts a sequential multimethod design. Phase 1 (completed) comprised two scoping reviews on AI-based PI prediction and AI support for clinical judgement in nursing. Phase 2 (ongoing) focuses on the development and content validation of realistic intensive care PI prevention vignettes. Phase 3 will analyse nurses' questions during interaction with a clinical chatbot to identify cognitive support needs and develop a taxonomy of judgement-related informational demands. Phase 4 involves a controlled pilot simulation study in which nurses assess clinical vignettes with and without standardised AI support. Outcomes will include judgement quality, decision confidence and objective neurocognitive indicators of cognitive workload derived from electroencephalography.

Anticipated Impact: By shifting focus from algorithmic performance to nurses' clinical judgement processes, this project will generate practice-oriented evidence to inform the design of cognitively aligned, ethically grounded and clinically usable AI decision-support systems for PI prevention. Findings will identify what information, when, and in which format AI support most effectively strengthens nurses' judgement under high cognitive load. The project is expected to reduce unwarranted variability in preventive decision-making, enhance patient safety, and support responsible AI integration into wound care practice, professional education and evidence-informed clinical guidelines.

Ethics: Ethical approval and informed consent will be obtained prior to data collection. All procedures will comply with data protection regulations, including secure handling of neurophysiological, simulation and interaction data.

OP158 Development and validation of a cross-platform mobile application for prescribing compression garments

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Stage of PhD: Final-year PhD candidate; currently conducting the fourth and final study phase.

Background: Medical compression garments are central to managing leg ulcers and lower-limb oedema, but the high degree of personalization, the variety of materials, and limited specific training make precise and consistent prescribing difficult. Many healthcare professionals feel uncertain when recommending compression due to lack of experience, continuing education, and consensus. No validated digital algorithm currently supports this decision-making process. A validated tool could transform care by providing compression garment recommendations based on clinical data and expert consensus.

Aims: To develop and validate a cross-platform mobile application that assists healthcare professionals in the personalized selection of compression garments for patients with diverse therapeutic needs.

Specific aims are: (1) to develop an algorithm based on a synthesis of scientific evidence and validate its content using the Delphi method; (2) to design and program an interactive cross-platform mobile application that implements this algorithm; and (3) to evaluate the accuracy of the algorithm by comparing compression garment recommendations made by healthcare professionals with and without the application.

Methods & Current progress: The study is conducted in four phases: (1) scoping and integrative reviews of the literature on the use and effectiveness of medical compression garments; (2) algorithm development based on review findings and expert consensus using the Delphi method; (3) development of a cross-platform mobile application, followed by a usability study; and (4) construct validity, using a quasi-experimental study to evaluate the effectiveness and reliability of the algorithm in clinical practice. The project is currently in the fourth phase, with ongoing recruitment.

Next steps: Completion of recruitment and data analysis for the fourth phase, followed by manuscript preparation and thesis writing.

Anticipated impact/translation: A more precise and user-friendly recommendation process is expected to increase the frequency and appropriateness of compression garment prescriptions, enhance healthcare professionals' confidence and engagement with compression therapy, and improve patient adherence. The algorithm and mobile application are available in Spanish, German and English.