

Wound Care



Diabetic wound care is serious. Serious enough that podiatrist Dr. Dennis Trenner has joined forces with Oroville Hospital to develop a Wound Care Center of Excellence that will team up specialist who are the best of the best.

Trenner, who grew up in Vancouver, Washington and did his residency at Stanford University, has been in private practice in Oroville for 23 years, but saw a real need to focus a team of top professionals to address the challenges that accompany diabetic patients.

“There is a large population of people with diabetic wounds in this area,” says Trenner.

“Treating these early can save lives.”

Diabetes can often lead to decreased circulation, and many sufferers

develop neurological change in their feet. Patients also do not have the same immune response to an injury, and therefore their ability to heal is significantly decreased.

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“What this means is patients often don’t feel the pain and as a result don’t get the treatment they need,” says Trenner. “Unfortunately, people often don’t get to the hospital for treatment until there is an infection and the leg has become septic.”

At this critical stage, specific procedures must be put into action in order to heal the wound and save the extremity. These include wound debridement, proper medication, and an evaluation by a dietician to help with eating disorders. With diabetics, the worse their blood sugar, the slower their healing. A dietician can keep a close watch and follow up to be sure patients are eating the right foods and taking their medications as prescribed.

Along with Trenner and the Oroville Hospital dietician services, vascular surgeon Dr. Milton Conley will be on board to address vascular problems in order to give each patient the very best care. What all this means in terms of the Wound Care Center is that all phases of the wound treatment will be addressed in one place.

Trenner says that the team will have the added advantage of working with Oroville Hospital’s VistA software system for medical records. As each health care specialist works with the patient his or her notes will be available for everyone else on the team as well as the patient’s primary-care physician, who is only an e-mail away.

As he develops the Wound Care Center, Trenner will continue to do the general podiatric work that is equally important to him. “I love what I do, and my patients are like family to me. I feel like I’m making a difference in the world.”



Oroville Hospital