

Chapter 8

Outlook



Despite major recent advances in wound treatment technology, the search for the ideal dressing continues with the ongoing development. There is a trend toward more advanced dressings, such as development of prevention therapies with incorporation of probiotics [1]. For early determination of the status in a wound with respect to the pH of the wound bed, the presence of enzymes and level of bacterial infection, several diagnostic dressings are in the phase of development [2]. Further implementation of advanced techniques (3D printing, electrospinning, combination 3D printing-electrospinning) into market wound dressings is awaited.

Innovation is expected to continue strongly in advanced wound care in the coming years. As well as the dramatic rise in the incidence of diabetes and obesity, the wound care market will benefit from demographic trends; namely, a significant increase of the number of elderly people over the next years is expected. The greatest opportunities may be in developing products that can prevent chronic wounds from occurring, rather than treating them [3].

References

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3. World Wound Care Markets 2011. Kalorama; 2011. Available from: <http://www.kaloramainformation.com/Wound-Care-6422062/>.