



## **Spotlight on Crystal Scott, MS, RDN-AP, LD, CNSC, NWCC, FAND**

### **Elevating the Role of Nutrition in Wound Prevention and Healing**

NAWCO is proud to recognize **Crystal Scott** as a nominee for the **Excellence in Wound Care Award**. A Nutrition Wound Care Certified Clinician (NWCC) since 2022, Crystal has dedicated her career to advancing the critical—and often underrecognized—role of nutrition in wound prevention, healing, and overall patient outcomes.

Throughout her career, Crystal has practiced across a wide range of clinical settings, including Trauma ICU, NICU, medical-surgical units, and long-term wound management. In each environment, she has worked to elevate standards of care by implementing nutrition-focused wound care protocols, improving early identification of malnutrition, strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration, and promoting consistent, evidence-based interventions for patients with pressure injuries and complex wounds.

Crystal's influence extends well beyond direct patient care. She currently serves as the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' representative to the National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (NPIAP), where she contributes to national guidelines, education initiatives, and interdisciplinary recommendations shaping wound care practice across the country. She also serves on the Morrison Healthcare Wound Care Specialty Workgroup, helping develop system-wide best practices and providing subject-matter expertise that impacts a large network of hospitals.

Education is a cornerstone of Crystal's work. She is a frequent speaker at state and national conferences, including FNCE 2025, the SoCal Clinical Nutrition Conference, the Alaska Academy Annual Summit, and the California Academy Annual Conference. Her presentations focus on translating research into practical, actionable strategies clinicians can immediately apply at the bedside. In addition, Crystal mentors dietitians, dietetic interns, and interdisciplinary colleagues in wound care, nutrition support, nutrition-focused physical exams (NFPE), and malnutrition assessment.

Crystal is especially passionate about bringing more dietitians into the wound care specialty. She actively advocates for the inclusion of Registered Dietitian Nutritionists on wound care teams, develops competency-based education, and promotes advanced credentials such as the NWCC. Her goal is to build a confident, highly skilled workforce of dietitians who are recognized as essential members of the interdisciplinary wound care team.

In addition to her clinical and educational leadership, Crystal currently serves as President of the California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, representing more than 5,000 nutrition professionals. In this role, she champions high standards of practice, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the continued advancement of clinical nutrition within wound care and the broader healthcare system.

Crystal's work is guided by a firm belief that wound healing requires a whole-person, interdisciplinary approach—and that nutrition is often the missing, yet essential, component. Through her clinical practice, system-wide initiatives, national leadership, and commitment to developing future professionals, she continues to advance comprehensive, evidence-based wound care that improves healing and quality of life for patients.

NAWCO is honored to recognize Crystal Scott for her outstanding contributions to the wound care community and her dedication to elevating nutrition as a vital component of healing.