



Spotlight on Dean Berthiaume, BSN, RN, WCC

Practical Expertise. Patient-Centered Care. A Commitment to Continuous Improvement.

NAWCO is proud to recognize Dean Berthiaume, BSN, RN, WCC, a wound care clinician and clinical specialist who brings a thoughtful, evidence-based approach to improving patient outcomes while supporting the growth and development of fellow clinicians. Certified as a WCC since 2023, Dean is passionate about translating best practices into real-world solutions that meet both patients and care teams where they are.

Dean has supported patients across the entire continuum of care, including acute, post-acute, and long-term care settings. His wound care journey began in Physical Therapy, where he developed a strong foundation in movement, function, and rehabilitation. When the hospital where he worked closed, Dean transitioned into Occupational Therapy, drawing on his physical therapy background to continue caring for patients in meaningful ways. He later returned to wound care, ultimately stepping into his current role as a Wound Care Specialist.

One defining moment in Dean's career occurred during his final week at a wound clinic, when a patient he had cared for over five years finally achieved complete wound closure. Being able to share that milestone with his patient was a powerful reminder that persistence, patience, and consistency are among the most important tools a wound care clinician can possess.

Dean's diverse clinical background allows him to approach complex wound prevention and treatment with a comprehensive, big-picture perspective, understanding how decisions made in one setting influence healing across the patient's entire care journey. With a background in physical therapy and sports medicine, he places strong emphasis on functional mobility, offloading strategies, and individualized care plans that realistically address barriers to healing.

Known for his calm demeanor and patient-first mindset, Dean is meticulous in his wound assessments and intentional about translating clinical findings into clear, actionable plans of care. He is a skilled educator in advanced wound therapies, including negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) and closed incision negative pressure therapy (ciNPT), with a focus on appropriate patient selection, correct application, and practical troubleshooting to ensure therapies remain effective.

Education is central to Dean's practice. He prioritizes patient and caregiver education, using simple, consistent teaching strategies to build confidence, adherence, and long-term success. At the same time, he partners closely with clinicians—providing hands-on education, product training, and protocol-driven guidance—to help elevate wound care practices across care teams.

Dean firmly believes that exceptional wound care is never stagnant. He is committed to continuous learning, staying current with emerging therapies, technologies, and processes, and thoughtfully

integrating those advancements back into clinical practice in ways that are both practical and scalable.

Proud to be part of the WCC community, Dean represents the shared values of competence, collaboration, and compassion. His dedication to patient-centered care and clinician education continues to make a meaningful impact on wound healing outcomes and the professionals who deliver that care.

If you know a NAWCO certified clinician who is making an impact in the wound care community, we would love to hear about it. Click on the following link to tell us their story.

<https://www.nawccb.org/excellence-in-wound-care-nominees/>