



**Kim Hoffman,
BSN, RN, MHMS, WCC**

This month's Outstanding WCC, Kim Hoffman, has been in the healthcare field for over 20 years, most of them working in wound care. She has experience in long term care, hospitals, including a children's hospital, and home health care. She is currently a Clinical Care representative for CURITEC, where she can use her clinical knowledge while also helping facilities choose the latest in wound dressing technology.

Kim began her nursing career in 2005 as an RN on the Med/Surg floor in a hospital. Many of her patients had GI surgeries and this was her first experience working with wound patients. She found that she was fascinated by treating wounds and her wound care journey began.

Kim switched to working in a long-term care facility to have the freedom to spend more time with her family. She also obtained her BSN and RN while at the same time. She worked to assemble a wound care team from multiple disciplines who could help treat the wound patients and give advice from every angle. Unfortunately, Kim's facility eliminated the wound nurse position, and she began working at a long-term acute care facility. She would make rounds with a Physician's Assistant and had a great working rapport with the team and her patients. One patient who was especially memorable was an elderly woman who was stuck on the toilet for

24 hours. This resulted in major skin breakdown and very deep and painful wound. Kim worked with this patient every time she worked and watched as the wound got smaller and smaller. Sadly, this facility closed, but not before Kim had helped heal her patient's wound to about 99% healed. While she didn't get to see the woman completely healed, she was very proud to have helped her through a traumatic and painful time.

Kim's wound care journey then took her to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, where she was the wound nurse for the entire hospital. During this time, she had an Amish patient who was about 7 years old. He and his family couldn't visit the hospital often, so she set out to gather as many supplies for him as possible. She would help teach his family how to change dressings and keep the wound clean. Through her persistence, she was able to see her young patient's wound completely healed. Helping his family also sparked an interest in teaching and educating others in wound care.

Now, in her role with CURITEC, Kim is using the skills she learned at the bedside with patients to help educate nurses and physicians in her facilities. Because of her diverse background, she can gain trust with the staff when making product recommendations. Kim likes to say, "a wound tells a story, you have to read it to learn the next chapter." It's this ability to connect with other clinicians and patients that makes her an Outstanding WCC.

If you know someone who is a NAWCO credential holder and is making an impact in the wound care community, we would love to hear their story. Click the link below to share it with us.

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