Purpose and Instructions for the Cardiff Wound Impact Quality of Life Questionnaire

Purpose
Quality of Life (QOL) is defined as the person’s satisfaction or evaluation of their own life compared with what they expect to be possible at this stage of their life. It is a subjective, qualitative measure that generally covers four domains: physical functional status, symptoms and side effects, social functioning and psychological state. The Cardiff Wound Impact Schedule (CWIS) was devised to assess health-related quality of life in people with chronic wounds of the lower limb\(^1\). It has been validated for venous ulcers in particular and linguistically for translation into French, German and US English\(^2\). It has also been used for assessing QOL in individuals with other wound types, for example pilonidal sinus wounds\(^3\).

Instructions
This tool should ideally be completed by the individual with a wound either at time of admission or when a negative attitude about their quality of life due to the wound is identified. The initial wound assessment screen contains three questions about QOL to help identify those individuals where further assessment on the impact of the wound is indicated, and possible social work consult may be needed.

If the form is used, the Cardiff Wound Healing Research Unit asks that individuals share their anonymized raw data in relation to the CWIS, as they are hoping to develop standardized norms for the questionnaire. Elizabeth Mudge is the coordinator of the database of users.

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References