

## Photo technique to support better wound care outcomes

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A new technique for photographing wounds that could provide more information to support wound care in people with leg wounds is being investigated in a project funded by Trajan Scientific and Medical.

The Bolton Clarke Research Institute is working with RMIT to investigate hyperspectral imaging (HSI) as a faster way to let healthcare providers know when a leg wound is healing normally and when more treatment is needed to help heal the wound better.

The photographic technique uses up to 100 colour channels and reveals information that can normally only be discovered using pathology tests.

BCRI lead researcher Dr Rajna Ogrin said leg wounds happened more often in older people and could be painful, stopping people from going out and doing the things they need to do.

“They also may take a long time to heal and lead to complications like infections and needing to go to hospital,” she said.

“The most common type of leg wound is venous leg ulcers, which are wounds that don’t heal because veins don’t bring the blood back to the heart properly, and cause swelling in the legs and other problems.

“But a big problem in wounds is that it is hard to know which wounds won’t heal as expected, and so need more help to heal better.”

Previous research by RMIT has found that HSI can help better predict the healing of foot wounds in people with diabetes.

The new work will build on research already done and find out if there is extra information in HSI photos that will help predict how leg wounds will heal.

Trajan Scientific and Medical CEO Stephen Tomisich said, “On our journey developing technologies towards personalized measurement, we also look for opportunities to support others making a difference in the wider community.

“This program is aligned with our patient-centric ethos, using less-invasive techniques in order to produce meaningful data to assist in healthcare.”

“We are pleased to continue supporting Bolton Clarke, since first funding their Peer Educators for Skin Health Program in 2015, and now this collaboration with RMIT to improve wound care,” he said.

The research project, which will span 12 months, will include 80 Bolton Clarke clients with venous leg wounds in the Melbourne North region.

Clients will be followed up at 12 and 24 weeks.

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## About Bolton Clarke

In 2015, RSL Care and RDNS came together to create Australia’s most experienced not-for-profit provider of comprehensive living, health and aged care services, operating nationally and internationally. In August 2017, our name changed to Bolton Clarke, which reflects the surnames of two early pioneers in community services who inspired our organisation’s work.

Bolton Clarke offers an integrated continuum of care services to residents and clients that match their needs and their health and lifestyle journey. Our services connect customers to solutions that promote healthier, more productive and involved lives.

## About Trajan Scientific and Medical

Science that benefits people



Trajan Scientific and Medical (Trajan) is actively engaged in developing and delivering solutions that have a positive impact on human wellbeing.

Trajan's focus is on developing and commercializing technologies that enable analytical systems to be more selective, sensitive and specific for biological, environmental or food related measurements especially those that can lead to portability, miniaturization and affordability.

With around 400 staff worldwide across Australia, Europe, USA and Asia, Trajan serves customers in over 100 countries with highly specialized consumables and components used in scientific analysis and clinical applications.

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