The Future of Wound Care Services is Data-Driven and Technology-Enabled
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What is the costliest healthcare challenge you may never have heard of? Chronic non-healing wounds.

It is estimated that chronic nonhealing wounds affect 2% of the general U.S. population and cost the healthcare system upwards of $50 billion annually, and yet, their pervasiveness and connection to other chronic diseases is underappreciated.

And the numbers are not getting much better, a sharp rise in chronic diseases like diabetes and heart disease, combined with an aging population, are driving up the quantity of patients who require treatment for their chronic wounds.

Diabetes is a perfect illustration of the chronic wound threat, according to a June New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM) article entitled Diabetic Foot Ulcers and Their Recurrence, $176 billion is spent annually in the U.S. on direct costs for diabetes care – as much as one third of these costs is lower extremity-related. Reoccurrence also plays a role in these costs, as roughly 40% of patients have a recurrence within one year after ulcer healing and, at three years, the rate is almost 60%. These direct costs exceed the treatment costs for many common cancers!

But let’s not forget about this weeks’ most important audience - hospitals. A recent assessment of 785 million outpatient visits by people with diabetes between 2007 and 2013 suggested that diabetic foot ulcers and associated infections are a powerful risk factor for both ER visits and hospital admissions.

To quote the authors of the NEJM article, diabetic foot ulcers are “common, complex and costly”.

Is there a solution to this complicated, and silent, epidemic?

As the leading technology-enabled wound care services provider in the country, Healogics is partnering with hospitals and health systems to effectively address the chronic wound challenge. Like our hospital partners, we are guided by the understanding that there is a patient at the center of everything we do and we understand the day-to-day challenges our partners face balancing quality patient care with strong business performance. This work and understanding, along with our continuously growing repository of healing outcomes data, helps us continuously deliver on our commitment to advance wound healing by sharing best practices, real-time learnings and expertise.

The future is now. Healogics is redefining the future of wound care by breaking down specialty and data sharing barriers to ensure that every patient with a chronic wound receives the right care, at the right time care, in the right location. Learn more at http://solutions.healogics.com.