

ABSTRACT

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Diabetes mellitus is a heterogeneous group of diseases. The main characteristic of this disease is hyperglycemia. During diabetes the patient develops microvascular and macrovascular complications. These complications lead to lower quality of patient's life and are the reasons for frequent hospitalisation and high mortality rates of diabetes patients.

Wound healing physiologically includes phases of hemostasis, inflammation, proliferation and remodeling. For chronic wounds is a typical extension of the inflammation phase.

The basic approach in treating chronic wounds is to ensure optimal environment in the wound and its surroundings. This includes removing pressure on the ulcer, debridement, local therapy, treating the infection and ischemia.

When choosing suitable treatment, localisation, compensation, and cause of the ulceration have to be considered. Patient has to be educated. It is therefore essential to see each patient as an individual and choose treatment method suitable for the individual.

Unsuccessful therapy leads to amputation. Prevention and early therapy reduces the number of amputations. Education of patients is essential part of successful treatment.