

**American Academy of Wound Management's
Certified Wound Specialist® (CWS®) Program
Accredited by the National Commission
for Certifying Agencies (NCCA)**

Washington, DC, May 15, 2007 – The American Academy of Wound Management (AAWM) is pleased to announce that on May 1, 2007 the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) granted accreditation to AAWM's Certified Wound Specialist® (CWS®) program for demonstrating compliance with the *NCCA Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs*. NCCA is the accrediting body of the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA) which accredits certification programs based on the highest quality standards in professional certification. The process ensures that programs adhere to modern standards of practice in the certification industry. AAWM joins an elite group of 79 organizations with 190 programs that have received and maintained the prestigious NCCA accreditation.

The NCCA accreditation process included a comprehensive review of AAWM's certification program to ensure compliance with industry standards for a quality certification program. The NCCA accreditation provides the public a means by which to identify certification programs that serve their specific competency assurance needs.

AAWM partners with Professional Testing Corporation (PTC) as its testing administrator, and will continue to draw upon the experience and expertise of PTC's extensive experience in providing organizations with quality psychometric services.

"A tremendous amount of work by a number of extremely talented individuals enabled the Certified Wound Specialist® credential to be the premiere multi-disciplinary wound care credential in the United States," said AAWM President Charles F. Gokoo, MD, CWS, FACCWS. Adds Gokoo, "the NCCA accreditation further enhances the value of the CWS® credential to the Diplomats who have achieved this credential and the patients they manage." AAWM Exam Chair Joe McCulloch, PhD, PT, CWS, FAPTA, FACCWS added, "As the Examination Chairperson, I am overjoyed to see that the rigorous examination preparation and administration process has been recognized through national certification by NOCA. This validates the hard work done by many people."

The AAWM currently offers the Certified Wound Specialist® (CWS®) credential. The CWS® examination is open to candidates with a minimum of a Bachelor's degree and at least 3 years of documented wound care experience. There are currently over 2,750 "Certified Wound Specialists® of the AAWM".

For more information on the American Academy of Wound Management, visit www.aawm.org.