

New outpatient clinic treats chronic ulcers, wounds

Vivian Johnson is way too busy to be sidelined by a wound that won't heal.

The 92-year-old Parma Heights woman, nicknamed Tiger, takes aerobics and weights classes, participates in book discussion groups and Bible study and plays the piano. So when the removal of a benign fatty tumor from her ankle developed into a lengthy hospital stay due to an infection, she grew restless for answers.

Fortunately for Johnson and countless other patients in the area, a new outpatient Wound Center has opened on

the hospital campus to treat chronic, non-healing ulcers and wounds.

After undergoing surgical debridement, or cleaning of her wound to

allow for regrowth of healthy tissue, she was visited in her room by podiatrist Ara Kallibjian, DPM.

Advanced technologies like a wound vac that mechanically cleans the wound to remove debris aided in Johnson's healing. Within weeks, the wound

that initially measured three centimeters deep and two centimeters across was nearly healed.

"It was a gaping hole, and now it's 0.3 centimeters," said Pat Cassidy, Johnson's daughter. "We're really impressed."

The Wound Center team consists of physicians, nurses and support staff who provide specialized, comprehensive treatment to prevent prolonged or permanent disability and decrease hospitalizations.

The team evaluates and treats the wound, establishes measures to prevent recurrence and keeps the patient's primary care physician – who continues to manage the underlying health issues – informed of the progress.

Types of non-healing wounds treated include: diabetic, vascular, ischemic, venous stasis, pressure ulcers, non-healing surgical wounds, insect and spider bites, trauma-related wounds and skin/metastatic malignancies.

"We created the Wound Center to fill a need in the community," said Dr. Kallibjian. "People want to come to Parma Hospital. Transportation and access become big issues when you need weekly wound treatments."

Kallibjian notes that wound care is time-consuming and most doctors do

Physicians currently affiliated with the Wound Center include:

Marc Berkowitz, DPM
PODIATRY

Jeffrey Boyko, DO
VASCULAR SURGERY

Peter Carrillo, MD
GENERAL SURGERY

Jeffrey Halpert, DPM
PODIATRY

Ara Kallibjian, DPM
PODIATRY

James Persky, MD
VASCULAR SURGERY

Salvatore Sidoti, DPM
PODIATRY

Eva Szathmary, MD
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Richard Ungvarsky, MD
GENERAL SURGERY

not stock the variety of supplies needed to treat complex wounds. Physicians affiliated with the Wound Center include podiatrists, vascular and general surgeons and infectious disease specialists.

For more information, contact the Wound Center, Medical Arts Center 2, Suite 106, at 440-743-4247.

"We created the Wound Center to fill a need in the community... People want to come to Parma Hospital."

ARA KALLIBJIAN, DPM



Vivian "Tiger" Johnson comes to the Wound Center for a follow-up visit with Ara Kallibjian, DPM. The Wound Center's intensive treatment and advanced technologies prompted a rapid recovery for Johnson.

New Members of the Medical Staff

Join us in welcoming the newest members of our Medical Staff.

Irina Jaeger, MD
UROLOGY
12301 Snow Road, Parma, OH 44130
216-362-2032

Sarah Kane, MD
OB-GYN
2500 MetroHealth Drive, Cleveland, OH 44109
216-778-5890

Michael Lioudis, MD
NEPHROLOGY
10 Severance Circle, Cleveland Hts., OH 44118
216-297-2703

Looking for a physician?

Call 440-743-4900 for a referral to one of the more than 500 members of Parma Hospital's Medical Staff.