

Meet Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) William Church, a Physical Therapist who is wound care certified through the **American Board of Wound Management** (ABWM). LCDR Church holds an appointment in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, one of the seven uniformed active duty services for the United States. He is one of 6,700 officers that make up the United States Public Health Service. LCDR Church is also one of approximately twenty certified wound care specialists assigned to the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) across the country. The BOP is made up of 122 institutions that house approximately 150,000 federally convicted inmates. He is currently assigned to the Federal Medical Center (FMC) in Fort Worth, Texas, one of seven Federal Medical Centers within the BOP.

LCDR Church provides safe, humane, and cost-efficient medical care, in keeping with the Federal BOP's mission, specializing in the area of advanced wound care management. LCDR Church became certified in wound care by the ABWM in 2017, and has since expanded his clinical privileges and role in advanced wound care management within his institution.

He works in a multidisciplinary setting, provides consultations, advises medical practitioners and staff on the most cost effective, evidence-based treatment approaches locally, and manages cases using best practice within the prison environment. He serves as primary lead for in-house advanced wound care cases and collaborates with a multi-disciplinary team of nationally recognized advanced wound care clinicians within the BOP.

LCDR Church provides new and current staff wound care training, and provides nursing staff competency training on negative pressure wound therapy, a first ever adjunct advanced wound care therapy initiated and implemented by LCDR Church at FMC Fort Worth. LCDR Church has expanded in-house wound care capabilities while assigned to FMC Fort Worth, at a considerable cost savings, bringing credit to the U.S. Public Health Service, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and FMC Fort Worth.

**Disclaimer:** Opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the U.S. Department of Justice or the U. S. Public Health Service.



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*U.S. Public Health Service*