

TISHA BARZYK

DNP, RN, APN, AGACNP-BC, CWS, CWCN-AP, PLNC
Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner



Advanced Wound Care Authority | Medical-Legal Expert Witness

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Board-certified Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and nationally recognized authority in advanced wound care, pressure injury prevention, integumentary pathology, and medical-legal wound analysis. Demonstrates over two decades of progressively advanced clinical, leadership, and forensic experience spanning Level I trauma care, surgical subspecialties, vascular pathology, post-acute wound management, outpatient advanced wound centers, and complex litigation support.

Functions as a primary medical-legal authority in cases involving pressure injuries, acute skin failure, surgical wound complications, vascular and diabetic wounds, and failures of nursing and advanced practice standards of care. Recognized for producing clinically precise, legally defensible opinions grounded in evidence-based practice, regulatory compliance, and exhaustive medical record analysis.

Serves as founder and clinical architect of a multi-state advanced wound care organization delivering high-acuity consultation services across acute care hospitals, long-term acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, rehabilitation centers, and outpatient advanced wound and vascular programs. Known for integrating bedside clinical mastery with systems-level governance, documentation precision, billing compliance, and litigation risk mitigation.

Expert testimony and written opinions consistently reflect command of national wound care standards, CMS regulations, state and federal nursing practice requirements, and facility compliance obligations. Professional work is characterized by diagnostic accuracy, disciplined causation analysis, and uncompromising adherence to clinical and legal rigor.

ACADEMIC HISTORY

<u>Institution and Location</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Graduation</u>
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Nashville, Tennessee	Doctor of Nursing Practice	May 2012
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Nashville, Tennessee	Master of Science in Nursing	August 2007
Middle Tennessee State University	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	May 2005

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Tennessee State University
Nashville, Tennessee

Associate of Science in Nursing

August 1998

Nurse Practitioner Preceptorships

- 2007 Emergency General Surgery Service. Preceptor: Dr. Jose Diaz. Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee. 230 clinical hours.
- 2007 Riven Internal Medicine Service. Preceptor: Lea Anne Smith, APRN. Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee. 330 clinical hours.

LICENSURE

- 2007 - 2027 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, State of Tennessee, Active
- 1998 - 2027 Registered Nurse, State of Tennessee, Active
- 2007 - 2028 Drug Enforcement Administration Controlled Substance License, State of Tennessee, Active
- 2019 - 2026 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, State of Florida, Active
- 2019 - 2027 Registered Professional Nurse – Advanced Practice-NP, State of Georgia, Active
- 2019 - 2027 Registered Professional Nurse, State of Georgia, Active

BOARD CERTIFICATION

- 2018 - 2028 Certified Wound Care Nurse – Advanced Practice (CWCN-AP) – certified through Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society (WOCNCB)
- 2011 - 2031 Certified Wound Specialist (CWS) through the American Board of Wound Management
- 2013 - 2026 Professional Legal Nurse Consultant – certified through Jurex Center for Legal Nurse Consultants
- 2013 - 2028 Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner – certified through the American Nurses Credentialing Center
- 2007 - 2017 Acute Care Nurse Practitioner – certified through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (*certification retired*)
- 1999 - 2026 Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support provider

1996 - 2026	Basic Life Support provider
2014	Hyperbaric Medicine Training – one-time certification through International ATMO
2014	Sclerotherapy Clinician – one-time certification through Empire Medical Training
2014	Botox Clinician – one-time certification through Empire Medical Training

CLINICAL FOUNDATION & PROGRESSION

Forensic Credibility Ladder in Acute Care, Surgical, and Wound Pathology

The clinical authority in advanced wound care and medical-legal analysis is grounded in a progressive foundation of trauma, critical care, surgical subspecialty practice, vascular pathology, and high-acuity patient management. This progression establishes comprehensive command of wound etiology, tissue compromise, systemic disease interaction, and post-surgical healing trajectories.

This clinical progression demonstrates a continuous, deliberate ascent from trauma-level bedside care through surgical subspecialty practice and vascular medicine into advanced wound care authority. It establishes the foundation for forensic credibility in medical-legal analysis involving wound causation, preventability, and standard-of-care compliance.

Institution and Location



www.integumetrix.com

Title

Founder | CEO | CCO
Advanced Wound Care Expert
Clinical Educator

Dates

2016 - Current

Established and directs Integumetrix as a multi-state advanced wound care consultation organization providing high-acuity evaluation and management services across acute care hospitals, long-term acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, and outpatient advanced wound and vascular centers. Recognized for architecting one of the most clinically rigorous advanced practice provider-led wound care programs in the region.

Functions as the clinical and operational architect responsible for program design, clinical governance, regulatory compliance, documentation standards, billing integrity, and systems-level risk mitigation. Oversees a multidisciplinary team of nurse practitioners and physician assistants delivering advanced wound care services across multiple healthcare systems.

Demonstrates authority in both bedside clinical practice and large-scale clinical program execution, integrating wound pathology expertise with documentation precision, regulatory compliance, and litigation defensibility.

Integumetrix functions not only as a clinical service organization but as a regulatory safeguard for facilities seeking defensible, evidence-based wound management practices.

Executive Leadership:

- Designed and implemented a scalable advanced wound consultation model.
- Oversees all aspects of strategic growth, business development, operations, and revenue cycle management.
- Direct billing and coding strategy with a focus on compliance, optimization, and audit defense.
- Guide payor contracting and regulatory navigation across multiple states.

Clinical Leadership:

- Serves as Chief Clinical Officer to lead a multi-state team of advanced-level providers, overseeing clinical quality, education, mentorship, and professional development.
- Develops and deliver advanced skin and wound care training programs tailored to both new and experienced providers.
- Maintains an active clinical role performing hands-on patient care, including advanced wound care procedures in both acute and post-acute care settings.

Consulting & Program Development:

- Provide facility-level consultation services including wound program development, regulatory compliance review, legal risk mitigation, and staff education.
- Evaluate and optimize clinical workflows, documentation practices, order sets, and protocols to align with best practices and state and federal standards.
- Offers expertise in advanced practice provider credentialing, ICD-10/CPT billing and coding, regulatory compliance, litigation risk exposure reduction, and interdisciplinary collaboration to support the launch and evolution of wound care service lines.



NEXUS LEGAL

www.nexus-legalconsulting.com

Founder | Lead Expert

Professional Legal Nurse Consultant
Advanced Wound Expert

2012 - Current

Serves as a nationally retained medical-legal authority specializing in advanced wound care litigation, pressure injury causation, acute skin failure, surgical wound complications, and failures of nursing and advanced practice standards of care. Provides expert services for both plaintiff and defense in complex medical malpractice litigation across acute care hospitals, long-term acute care hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, skilled nursing facilities, home health, and hospice settings.

Recognized for authoritative analysis of wound etiology, progression, preventability, and standard-of-care compliance. Expert opinions are grounded in clinical precision, regulatory interpretation, forensic documentation review, and application of evidence-based practice.

Core Forensic Services and Expertise:

- Certified Professional Legal Nurse Consultant (PLNC) through Jurex Center for Legal Nurse Consulting

- Medical merit review and case validity screening
- Comprehensive record analysis and forensic wound chronology reconstruction
- Identification of breaches in nursing, advanced practice, and facility standards of care
- Causation analysis related to pressure injuries, acute skin failure, and wound deterioration
- Differentiation of present-on-admission versus facility-acquired avoidable and unavoidable pressure injuries
- Evaluation of pressure injury risk assessment, prevention programs, staging accuracy, and treatment adequacy compared to evidence-based practice expectations
- Review and interpretation of facility policies, CMS regulations, and F-Tag compliance standards
- Analysis of documentation integrity and legal defensibility
- Preparation of written expert opinions rendered to a reasonable degree of medical, wound, and nursing certainty
- Deposition and trial testimony as a testifying expert witness
- Consultation with legal teams regarding clinical strategy, medical narrative development, and evidentiary positioning

Experience Highlights:

- Retained in more than 175 wound cases since 2012, representing both plaintiff and defense
- Rendered expert testimony in 35 depositions and 5 trials
- Collaborate closely with legal teams to clarify clinical issues, inform litigation strategy, and provide education on wound care standards
- Reports consistently include objective case summaries, breach and causation analysis, and opinion statements grounded in evidence-based practice
- Professional reputation is defined by disciplined forensic methodology, objective clinical interpretation, and the ability to translate complex wound pathology into defensible legal conclusions. Expert reports consistently integrate medical record evidence, regulatory requirements, clinical standards of care, breach analysis, and causation determination into unified, court-admissible opinions.

Healogics, Inc.

(Formerly Accelecare Wound Professionals, LLC)
Nashville, Tennessee

Wound Care Specialist

2014 - 2016

Provided contract advanced wound care services across acute and post-acute facilities, performing hands-on complex wound consultations. This role represented the direct transition into full-scope advanced wound care specialization.

Clinical authority refined in:

- Advanced wound diagnostics
- Longitudinal wound management
- Biologic grafting applications
- Multidisciplinary wound program integration



Partner
OSHA Compliance Officer

2000 - 2024
2013 - 2015

www.chateauindustries.com
Nashville, Tennessee

Served as co-owner and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Compliance Officer for a commercial millwork and casework manufacturing company. Oversaw workplace safety operations and regulatory compliance in alignment with federal and state OSHA standards specific to the manufacturing industry.

Key Responsibilities and Achievements:

- Ensured full compliance with OSHA regulations and workplace safety standards across all operational departments
- Led quarterly on-site safety inspections and hazard assessments; implemented corrective actions and process improvements
- Maintained OSHA documentation and employee health/safety records, including injury logs, training certifications, and compliance files
- Proactively monitored updates to OSHA guidelines to ensure the company remained in full compliance or exceeded regulatory expectations

[**Nashville Vascular & Vein Institute**](#) **Medical Practice Development** 2013 - 2014
Vascular/Endovascular/General Surgery
Nashville, Tennessee

Collaborated directly with Dr. Patrick Ryan, a vascular and general surgeon, to establish an independent private practice. This immersive experience provided a unique combination of clinical insight and business leadership that continues to inform my multidisciplinary approach to wound care and practice management.

Key Contributions and Experience:

- Played a lead role in launching the new practice, including branding, logo and website design, and digital marketing strategy
- Gained deep insight into the intersection of clinical medicine and healthcare business operations, forming a foundation for future entrepreneurial ventures and expert consulting roles

[**The Surgical Clinic**](#) **Vascular Nurse Practitioner** 2012 - 2013
Vascular/Endovascular/General Surgery
Nashville, Tennessee

Worked in close collaboration with Dr. Patrick Ryan, a board-certified vascular and general surgeon, to deliver comprehensive care to patients undergoing vascular, endovascular, and general surgical procedures for a wide range of complex conditions. This role provided hands-on clinical exposure that enhanced my understanding of the vascular system and its direct relationship to wound pathology and healing.

Clinical Responsibilities:

- Developed foundational knowledge of vascular pathology, vascular surgery, vascular insufficiency, and limb preservation—skills that directly inform my advanced wound care practice
- Conducted detailed preoperative history and physical examinations, and delivered individualized patient education on surgical expectations and recovery
- Provided perioperative and same-day surgical care, including hospital-based rounding, post-op management, and discharge planning
- Oversaw comprehensive postoperative care, including wound assessment, pain management, patient education, and follow-up care in both inpatient and outpatient settings
- Participated in collaborative clinic visits to support continuity of care and optimize patient outcomes, particularly in cases involving vascular insufficiency and wound healing

Practice Development & Support:

- Supported strategic marketing and outreach initiatives to strengthen referral networks and elevate the practice's presence within the medical community.
- Created and delivered educational presentations on vascular and general surgical topics to enhance clinical knowledge among nursing and administrative staff.
- Designed patient-facing educational materials to improve understanding of surgical conditions, procedures, and recovery expectations.
- Captured and edited surgical footage to develop instructional videos for both staff training and patient education regarding vascular procedures.
- Contributed to quality improvement initiatives focused on optimizing clinical outcomes, streamlining workflow processes, and enhancing overall patient satisfaction.

This role provided critical clinical exposure to vascular pathology, surgical wound management, and multidisciplinary post-surgical care—experience that continues to inform my wound care expertise and expert witness work.

[Nexus Practitioners, LLC](#)
Nashville, Tennessee

Founder | Principal Consultant

2010 - Current

Established Nexus Practitioners as a national platform for advanced wound care education, regulatory advisory services, and clinical systems consulting. Recognized as a primary authority for healthcare organizations, clinicians, legal professionals, and industry partners seeking expert guidance on wound care standards, documentation compliance, scope-of-practice governance, and litigation risk mitigation. Functions as a senior educator and strategic advisor influencing how wound care programs are built, taught, and legally defended.

Domains of authority include:

- Advanced wound care education from foundational through expert-level practice
- Pressure injury prevention program design
- Documentation precision and forensic defensibility
- Nurse practitioner scope-of-practice compliance
- Wound care billing and coding integrity
- Clinical program development and optimization
- Regulatory readiness and audit preparation

Provides:

- National and regional professional speaking engagements
- Accredited advanced wound care education programs
- Facility-based wound care training and clinical intensives
- Legal risk mitigation training for healthcare organizations
- Advisory services for startups and medical device and biologic product developers

Serves as a recognized industry voice guiding best practices in advanced wound care delivery, clinical documentation standards, and legal defensibility.

Nexus Practitioners functions as the parent organization of Nexus Legal, under which all expert witness and forensic consulting services are conducted.

Vanderbilt Orthopaedic Institute
Orthopaedic Trauma Division
Nashville, Tennessee

Associate in Orthopaedics

2007 - 2012

Provided comprehensive inpatient and outpatient care for patients undergoing operative repair of complex orthopaedic trauma and reconstructive procedures. This role created foundational mastery of surgical wound healing, musculoskeletal tissue integrity, and postoperative complication management.

Clinical Responsibilities:

- Performed preoperative history and physical examinations with individualized surgical education for elective orthopaedic patients
- Managed postoperative care including pain control, wound surveillance, radiographic interpretation, and discharge planning
- Conducted independent and collaborative outpatient clinic visits, providing follow-up care and patient counseling on rehabilitation and recovery, and advanced wound care
- Maintained continuity of care through secure messaging and direct patient communication

Wound Care & Educational Leadership:

- Served as the division's primary clinical resource for advanced wound care management, consulted by surgeons and advanced practice providers for guidance on complex wounds
- Delivered formal and informal wound care education to residents, fellows, providers, and clinic staff through in-services and case-based teaching
- Advised on wound dressing protocols, surgical site management, and early identification of healing complications in high-risk orthopaedic patients

Served as the division's primary wound care resource, providing guidance to surgeons and advanced practice providers regarding complex wound presentation and management.

Delivered formal and informal wound care education to clinical staff, reinforcing early identification of healing compromise and infection risk.

This experience formed the basis for surgical wound pathology authority and postoperative wound causation analysis in litigation contexts.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Level 1 Trauma Center
Nashville, Tennessee

Charge Nurse
Registered Nurse 3

1998 – 2007

Provided advanced critical care nursing in a high-acuity Level 1 trauma ICU environment caring for patients with multisystem trauma, complex surgical injuries, and severe physiologic compromise. This role formed the clinical foundation for understanding tissue hypoperfusion, ischemia-reperfusion injury, systemic inflammatory response, and the early pathophysiologic drivers of integumentary failure.

Staff Nurse Responsibilities:

- Provided comprehensive care to critically ill trauma patients, managing complex hemodynamics, surgical recovery, and multi-organ support
- Coordinated closely with trauma surgeons, consulting specialists, case managers, and ancillary services to ensure timely, efficient care delivery
- Delivered direct patient and family education in high stress, emotionally charged situations

Charge Nurse & Leadership Responsibilities:

- Oversaw daily operations of the 31-bed unit, including unit-wide bed management and coordination of patient flow
- Acted as a liaison between nursing staff, surgical teams, and patient families, for dispute resolution, education, and ensuring communication consistency and continuity of care
- Served as a resource and mentor to new and experienced nursing staff, consistently supporting clinical development and best practices
- Led multiple unit-based initiatives, including serving as the project lead of a three-year effort to implement an electronic nursing documentation system

This experience established deep understanding of systemic contributors to acute skin failure and pressure injury development in critically ill populations. Also provided extensive deep clinical and leadership experience in a high-pressure and high-stress environment and instilled a systems-based perspective that continues to influence work as a provider, educator, and consultant.

Summit Medical Center

Emergency Department
Hermitage, Tennessee

Registered Nurse

2001 - 2002
2003 - 2005

Provided care in a high-volume emergency department managing patients with acute trauma, medical emergencies, and surgical complications. This environment reinforced rapid clinical assessment, prioritization, and diagnostic reasoning under time-critical conditions.

Key Responsibilities:

- Delivered triage and hands-on care for trauma, medical, and surgical emergencies across all acuity levels
- Collaborated closely with emergency physicians, trauma teams, and specialists to initiate timely interventions
- Maintained readiness to manage high-acuity patients, including those requiring advanced airway, resuscitation, and stabilization

- Applied critical thinking and adaptability to provide efficient, compassionate care during unpredictable clinical scenarios

Mortgage Industry

1991 - 1998

Nashville, Tennessee

Worked in the home mortgage industry for seven years, gaining a strong foundation in finance, regulatory compliance, and customer relations. Progressed through roles as loan processor, auditor, and ultimately branch manager, where I led day-to-day operations, team management, and client engagement.

Key Responsibilities & Achievements:

- Managed full-scope branch operations, including loan pipeline oversight, staff supervision, and client account management
- Conducted audits to ensure compliance with lending regulations and quality standards
- Guided clients through the mortgage process with clarity and professionalism, building trust and delivering timely results
- Gained proficiency in financial documentation, credit analysis, and underwriting principles
- Completed college coursework in accounting and finance, complementing hands-on operational experience
- Developed leadership, organization, and interpersonal communication skills that translated directly into healthcare team leadership and administrative strategy

This experience provided a valuable foundation in business and financial operations and ultimately influenced my decision to pursue a more stable and impact-driven career in nursing and healthcare leadership due to consistent volatile changes in lending rates.

HEALTHCARE INSTITUTION PRIVILEGING

<u><i>Institution and Location</i></u>	<u><i>Supervising Physician</i></u>	<u><i>Dates</i></u>
TriStar Summit Medical Center <i>Hermitage, Tennessee</i>	Adejoke Aina-Babalola, MD Gregory Neal, MD	2025 - Current 2022 - 2025
HCA Florida North Florida Hospital <i>Gainesville, Florida</i>	Sanil Thomas, MD	2020 - Current
TriStar Horizon Medical Center <i>Dickson, Tennessee</i>	Adejoke Aina-Babalola, MD Gregory Neal, MD James Ettien, MD	2025 - Current 2019 - 2025 2016 - 2019
Parkridge Medical Center <i>Chattanooga, Tennessee</i>	David Redd, MD	2017 - Current
TriStar Skyline Medical Center <i>Nashville, Tennessee</i>	Adejoke Aina-Babalola, MD Gregory Neal, MD	2025 - Current 2016 - 2025
TriStar Hendersonville Medical	Adam Richter, MD	2018 - Current

<i>Hendersonville, Tennessee</i>	Gregory Neal, MD James Ettien, MD	2017 - 2018 2014 - 2017
TriStar Southern Hills Medical Center <i>Nashville, Tennessee</i>	Adejoke Aina-Babalola, MD James Ettien, MD James Ettien, MD	2021 - Current 2019 - 2021 2016 - 2019
TriStar Centennial Medical Center <i>Nashville, Tennessee</i>	Adejoke Aina-Babalola, MD Gregory Neal, MD James Ettien, MD Patrick Ryan, MD	2025 - Current 2019 - 2025 2016 - 2019 2012 - 2014
TriStar Stonecrest Medical Center <i>Smyrna, Tennessee</i>	Adejoke Aina-Babalola, MD Gregory Neal, MD James Ettien, MD	2025 - Current 2019 - 2025 2016 - 2019
Vanderbilt University Medical Center <i>Nashville, Tennessee</i>	Philip Kregor, MD	2007 - 2012

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & NATIONAL AUTHORITY APPOINTMENTS

Consistently selected to serve in advisory, faculty, and content-expert roles by healthcare systems, professional organizations, and medical product manufacturers based on recognized authority in advanced wound care, regulatory compliance, and clinical education.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing	Honorary Alumna	2024
Invited as Honorary Alumna to address graduating nursing cohorts on leadership, clinical excellence, and professional innovation.		
Smith + Nephew <i>(formerly Osiris Therapeutics, Inc.)</i>	Bio Tissue Faculty Bureau Speaker Clinical Educator	2019 - Current

Selected to provide national-level education to physicians, podiatrists, surgeons, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and wound care teams on the clinical application of placental and umbilical biologic grafts. Provides instruction on evidence-based utilization, patient selection, and surgical and wound healing integration.

HCA HealthTrust	Delegated Healthcare Professional	2018 - Current
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Approved clinical educator with authorization to deliver advanced wound care education and training across HCA facilities nationwide.

Independent Advanced Wound Care Educator 2016 - Current

Functions as a nationally retained educator delivering foundational through expert-level wound care training to interdisciplinary audiences, including healthcare systems, medical product developers, legal professionals, and clinical leadership teams through programs ranging from 30 minutes to 8 hours.

HCA TriStar Division Advanced Wound Product Committee 2016 - Current

Participates in evaluation of advanced wound care products and devices, including safety review, efficacy analysis, clinical testing, and system-wide adoption recommendations.

Advanced Wound Industry Consultant Clinical Advisor & Product Development 2016 - Current

Serves as a key opinion leader and clinical advisor to industry partners developing wound care products, devices, and biologic technologies. Provides guidance on clinical application, regulatory positioning, and integration into evidence-based practice.

American Nurses Credentialing Center Content Expert 2016 - Current

Provides subject-matter expertise for wound care-related educational materials, publications, and certification resources.

PESI Healthcare Professional Speaker | Educator 2014 - Current

Selected to deliver accredited full-day seminars on advanced wound care, pressure injury prevention, wound assessment, debridement techniques, and risk mitigation strategies.

American Nurses Credentialing Center Panel Member | Content Expert 2012

Selected as one of only nine national experts to establish the minimum passing standard for the AGACNP certification examination, contributing to national credentialing criteria.

Academic Affiliations - Various Institutions Clinical Instructor | Educator 2008 - Current

Provides mentorship and clinical instruction to nurse practitioner students in advanced wound care, regulatory compliance, and transition to high-acuity practice environments.

5-YEAR PROFESSIONAL SPEAKING & EDUCATION

Recognized as a national-level educator in advanced wound care, selected to provide repeated professional instruction across healthcare systems, medical device organizations, and legal education platforms. Speaking engagements emphasize:

- Advanced wound diagnostics and staging accuracy
- Pressure injury prevention and hospital-acquired condition mitigation
- Biologic graft utilization and wound healing technologies
- Surgical wound management and complication prevention
- Legal risk mitigation through documentation precision

- Integration of regulatory compliance into clinical practice

Instruction delivered through:

- National conferences
- Multi-state healthcare system education programs
- Web-based professional broadcasts
- Facility-level clinical intensives
- Medical product manufacturer training programs

Educational scope includes interdisciplinary audiences of physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, administrators, and legal professionals.

2026	An overview of placental tissue use in wound management and surgery. Smith + Nephew at various locations across the United States and through national webcasts throughout the year.
2025	An overview of placental tissue use in wound management and surgery. Smith + Nephew at various locations across the United States and through national webcasts throughout the year.
2024	Mitigating Legal Risk in Wound Care. Recorded presentation for PESI educational services.
2024	An overview of placental tissue use in wound management and surgery. Smith + Nephew at various locations across the United States and through national webcasts throughout the year.
2023	Mitigating Legal Risk in Wound Care. National presentation for PESI sponsored Legal Summit.
2023	Biologic Skin Substitutes: Types available and how to use them. Integumentrix – HCA TriStar Division.
2023	Outpatient Clinic Wound Care and Skin Grafting. Integumentrix presentation given to HCA TriStar outpatient advanced wound and hyperbaric clinical staff.
2023	Wound Care in the Post-Acute Setting. Integumentrix presentation given to Middle Tennessee post-acute facility leaders.
2023	An overview of placental tissue use in wound management and surgery. Smith + Nephew at various locations across the United States and through national webcasts throughout the year.
2022	Biologic Skin Substitutes in the Advanced Wound Care Space. Integumentrix – Florida Division.
2022	Mitigating Legal Risk in Wound Care. Integumentrix presentation given to Middle Tennessee post-acute facility leaders.

- 2022 Voice-over PowerPoint Presentations via HealthStream to HCA Florida Nursing staff on Wound Care Orders, Inpatient Skin and Wound Care, Pressure Injury Prevention, and Support Surfaces.
- 2022 An overview of placental tissue use in wound management and surgery. Smith + Nephew at various locations across the United States and through national webcasts throughout the year.
- 2021 "Grafix®, GrafixPL®, & Stravix®: Incorporating Placental Tissue Grafting into your Practice, Clinical indication and utilization" for Smith+Nephew at various locations across the United States as requested throughout the year.
- 2021 Webcast on Grafix®, GrafixPL®, & Stravix® - "Placental Tissues for Wound Care & Surgical Applications: Scientific and Clinical Overview" for Smith+Nephew as requested throughout the year.
- 2020 "Inpatient Wound Care" to physicians and staff during a Graduate Medical Education series at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville, FL.
- 2020 HealthStream Voice-over PowerPoint presentations for all facility employed and registry nursing staff at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville, Florida, on pressure injury prevention, support surfaces, basic wound care, and dressings.
- 2020 Live on site presentation along with a streaming webcast on "Wound Care Essentials" to all facility employed nursing, physician and ancillary staff at Unity Medical Center in Manchester, TN.
- 2020 National Webcast on Grafix®, GrafixPL®, & Stravix® - "Placental Tissues for Wound Care & Surgical Applications: Scientific and Clinical Overview" for Smith+Nephew as requested throughout the year.
- 2020 "Grafix®, GrafixPL®, & Stravix®: Incorporating Placental Tissue Grafting into your Practice, Clinical indication and utilization" for Smith+Nephew at various locations across the United States as requested throughout the year.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Adjunct Faculty – Vanderbilt University School of Nursing 2012 - 2018

Associate in Orthopaedics – Vanderbilt University School of Medicine 2007 - 2012

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Health Literacy in an Orthopaedic Trauma Patient Population: Improving Patient Comprehension with Informational Intervention

Published in The Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma, 2013

Presented at the American Orthopaedic Association Annual Meeting, 2014
Presented at the Canadian Orthopaedic Association Annual Meeting, 2014

Conducted collaborative research evaluating the impact of written educational tools on patient comprehension following orthopaedic trauma surgery. Developed patient-specific educational materials and implemented pre- and post-intervention evaluation demonstrating statistically significant improvement in understanding when structured written guidance was incorporated.

Findings presented at national and international professional meetings, reinforcing the value of structured education in improving surgical outcomes and patient engagement.



Creator & Developer – WoundNP Mobile Application

Published in the Apple App Store | 2012 – 2019

Developed a clinical decision-support smartphone application providing evidence-based wound care education and treatment guidance for medical residents and healthcare providers. Content was derived from doctoral research and clinical protocols addressing:

- Wound assessment and terminology
- Dressing selection
- Treatment algorithms for surgical and complex wounds
- Clinical decision-making in bedside environments

This work represents early leadership in translating advanced wound care education into digital clinical decision-support platforms.

Doctor of Nursing Practice Scholarly Project

Wound Management Guidelines for the Orthopaedic Patient Population

Published by Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, 2012

Scholarly Project presentation highlighting the development of evidence-based wound management guidelines tailored to the orthopaedic patient population. The project addressed gaps in surgical wound care knowledge among providers, often due to limited formal training, and aimed to reduce complications and improve outcomes.

Key Objectives & Outcomes:

- Identified clinical gaps in provider knowledge related to wound assessment and management in post-operative orthopaedic patients
- Developed extensive guideline-based protocols for the care of:
 - Closed postoperative surgical incisions
 - Wounds with soft tissue loss
 - Superficially infected wounds
- Emphasized cost reduction, prevention of delayed healing, and alignment of clinical practice with current evidence-based standards

This work was part of my doctoral scholarly project and laid the foundation for future clinical education, consulting, and development of digital decision-support tools such as the *WoundNP* application.

HONORS & AWARDS

Recognition has been consistently awarded for clinical excellence, leadership, and contributions to the advancement of nursing practice, advanced wound care, and healthcare education.

- Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing
Scholarly Project Poster Award – Doctor of Nursing Practice Program
- Distinguished Service Recognition – Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Awarded for sustained contributions to patient care, clinical leadership, and professional excellence
- Vanderbilt Magnet Certificate of Appreciation
Recognizing contributions to nursing excellence and professional practice standards
- Rosamond Gabrielson Staff Nurse of the Year Award
Awarded in recognition of exceptional patient care, clinical judgment, and professional leadership
- Advancement to Registered Nurse III – Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Formal recognition of advanced clinical competence, leadership, and professional contribution

These distinctions reflect long-standing recognition for clinical authority, professional integrity, and impact on patient care standards.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Consistently selected to serve in advisory and governance roles shaping clinical standards, regulatory compliance, and advanced wound care practice:

- Advanced Wound Care Key Opinion Leader – HCA Florida North Florida
- Advanced Wound Care Key Opinion Leader – HCA TriStar Division
- HCA TriStar Division Advanced Wound Care Product Committee
- Vanderbilt Advanced Practice Nurse Advisory Board
- Trauma ICU Documentation and EMR Advisory Committees
- Orthopaedic and Surgical Practice Development Committees

These appointments reflect repeated selection based on clinical authority, regulatory insight, and leadership credibility.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Maintains active participation in organizations central to clinical excellence, credentialing, and regulatory standards in nursing and wound care:

- Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society (WOCN)
- Tennessee Doctor of Nursing Practice Association
- American Professional Wound Care Association (DAPWCA)
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
- American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
- American Nurses Association
- Association of Professional Legal Nurse Consultants

Membership reflects continued alignment with national standards, ongoing professional development, and engagement in regulatory and clinical governance.

FINAL CREDENTIALING STATEMENT

Tisha Barzyk, DNP, AGACNP-BC, CWS, CWCN-AP, PLNC functions as a nationally recognized authority in advanced wound care, clinical systems leadership, and medical-legal wound analysis. Professional identity is defined by the integration of bedside clinical mastery, surgical and vascular pathology expertise, regulatory compliance governance, and disciplined forensic methodology.

Expert opinions are distinguished by:

- Diagnostic accuracy
- Evidence-based clinical reasoning
- Regulatory and policy fluency
- Documentation precision
- Objective causation analysis
- Courtroom defensibility

Professional practice reflects uncompromising adherence to clinical rigor, ethical integrity, and legal precision. Work consistently supports healthcare systems, legal professionals, and regulatory bodies in defining, defending, and advancing the highest standards of wound care practice.

5-YEAR CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

2026	How Medical Technology is Revolutionizing Slough Removal
2026	The Itch Factor
2026	Wound Infection Day
2026	Harnessing a Clean, Cover, and Close Approach to Chronic Wounds
2025	Optimizing the Use of Wound Antiseptics in Practice – An International Perspective
2025	NP Role in Substance Use Disorder
2025	Elevating Wound Care – Empowering Bedside Nurses to Deliver Wound Care
2025	Diving into Diverse Applications of Fish Skin Grafts

- 2025 Complex Wounds – Optimizing Human Allografts
- 2025 Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support
- 2025 A Deep Dive into Diabetic Foot Ulcers with Exposed Structures
- 2025 DEA 8-hour Mandatory Training on the Opioid Crisis
- 2024 The Wound Infection Hour
- 2024 Leg Ulcers and Compression
- 2024 Florida Advanced Practice Registered Nurse 26-hour Bundle
- 2024 An algorithmic Approach to Negative Pressure Wound Therapy
- 2024 Palmetto Surgical Debridement Webinar
- 2023 SAWC Fall Conference, Las Vegas, NV
- 2023 Reducing the Burden of Stalled Wounds.
- 2023 Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Injuries Across the Spectrum
- 2023 Preventing Medical Device Related Pressure Injuries
- 2023 Patient-Pathway to Wound Management
- 2023 Patient-Centered Management of Chronic Wounds in the Post-Acute Setting
- 2023 PAD Disease State Awareness, Diagnosis, and Referral
- 2023 Guide to Lymphedema, Lipedema, and Swelling Management
- 2023 Guide to Chronic Wound Care
- 2023 Integrated Approach to Biofilm Removal
- 2023 Chronic Wounds – Cellular Biology and Management
- 2023 Advances in Wound Healing
- 2023 Addressing Use of Silicone Foam Dressings in Pressure Injury Prevention
- 2023 Balancing the Wound Environment
- 2023 Addressing Wound Infection, Inflammation and Biofilm
- 2023 Advances in Wound Healing: Exploring Treatment Modalities. NACCME

- 2022 Anatomy and Physiology of Skin and Underlying Tissues. NACCME.
- 2022 Balancing the Wound Environment: ORC/Collagen/Silver-ORC Dressings. NACCME.
- 2022 Chronic Wounds: Cellular Biology and Management. NACCME.
- 2022 Common Skin Conditions: Updates in Pharmacology. AANP.
- 2022 Medical Errors. CE Broker.
- 2022 Safe and Effective Prescription of Controlled Substances. CE Broker.
- 2022 To treat or not to treat? Antibiotic Stewardship across the lifespan. AANP.
- 2022 Patient-Centered Wound Care Symposium: Addressing Wound Infection, Inflammation and Biofilm. HMP Education.
- 2022 Addressing Use of Silicone Foam Dressings in Pressure Injury Prevention. NACCME.
- 2022 A Wound Care Clinician's Guide to Lymphedema, Lipedema, and Swelling Management. HMP Education.
- 2022 Integrated Approach to Biofilm Removal. NACCME.
- 2022 Guide to Chronic Wound Care. NACCME.
- 2021 Professional Webcast and Virtual Speaking Workshop. Smith+Nephew | PharMethod.
- 2021 Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support. Postgraduate Institute for Medicine.