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Hello Healers,

Did you know it's National Pressure Injury Prevention month? We're celebrating by bringing awareness to pressure injury prevention and by educating the public about the topic. 2.5 million Americans develop pressure injuries each year and over the past 5 years, the National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel has identified an increase in these numbers. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) noted that no other preventable event occurs as frequently as pressure-related injuries. In addition, pressure-related injuries are the most frequent lawsuit after wrongful death!

As nurses, we have a critical responsibility to protect those at risk by teaching our caregiver team how to prevent pressure injuries.

To recognize this holiday, each week this month, we will be sending out a newsletter to raise awareness, identify populations at risk, and explore preventative interventions.

Join **Advantage Surgical Wound Care** by celebrating and joining the fight to STOP

We are sharing some printable resources to print and share with your team. Please share and post the material around your buildings to raise awareness.

Happy Healing,

***Tara Frazier MSN, AGNP, APRN, WCC***  
***Chief Clinical Officer***



*Centers for Medicare & Medicaid classify pressure injuries a*

## **“NEVER EVENT”**

- Pressure injuries are the most frequently occurring preventable event.

- 2.5 million patients per year develop a pressure injury.

- Pressure injuries are one of the five most common harms experienced by patients.

- Prevention and early identification of pressure injuries are key in protecting skin integrity.

- Patients who stay in bed or can't move without help are at risk.

- Surgeries lasting for more than 3+ hours put patients at risk for pressure injury.

- Patients with decreased nutritional intake are at higher risk for developing a pressure injury.

- Patients affected by COVID-19 with pneumonia may be placed in a prone position which increases the risk of pressure injuries.

**60,000** 60,000 patients die each year as a direct result of pressure injuries.

**patient Cost Per Pressure Injury**  
\$20,900 to \$151,700

**Spent in 2019**  
\$26.8 Billion

- HAPI rates are increasing while all other hospital acquired conditions are decreasing.

## **Medical Devices**

- Medical device-related pressure injuries now account for more than 30% of all hospital-acquired pressure injuries.

- Education for nursing staff on correct use of positioning devices is vital for preventing pressure injury.

- Offloading devices or other preventative equipment must be checked daily for damage or wear to ensure continued effectiveness.

**2nd**

Pressure injuries are the second most common lawsuit after wrongful death.

**17,000**

17,000 lawsuits that are directly related to pressure injuries are filed annually.



# STOP!

## PRESSURE INJURIES

### Prevent Pressure Injuries

Also known as bedsores, decubitus ulcers, & pressure ulcers

### Pressure Injuries

are a major burden to patients, caregivers, the healthcare system & society

1. IS YOUR PATIENT AT RISK?
2. IMPLEMENT PREVENTATIVE STRATEGIES
3. DOCUMENT, DOCUMENT, DOCUMENT
4. REFER TO INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE INJURY GUIDELINES

[www.npiap.com](http://www.npiap.com)



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