

Pressure Ulcer Management Guidelines

Stage 1	Stage 2 Partial Thickness	Stage 3 Full Thickness	Stage 4 Full Thickness	Unstageable Full Thickness
Intact skin with a localized area of non-blanchable erythema, which may appear differently in darkly pigmented skin.	Partial-thickness loss of skin with exposed dermis. The wound bed is viable, pink or red, moist, and may also present as an intact or ruptured serum-filled blister. Adipose (fat) and deeper tissues are not visible. Granulation tissue, slough and eschar are not present.	Full-thickness loss of skin, in which adipose (fat) is visible in the ulcer and granulation tissue and epibole (rolled wound edges) are often present. Slough and/or eschar may be visible.	Full-thickness skin and tissue loss with exposed or directly palpable fascia, muscle, tendon, ligament, cartilage or bone in the ulcer. Slough and/or eschar may be visible. Epibole (rolled edges), undermining and/or tunneling often occur. Depth. varies by anatomical location.	Full-thickness skin and tissue loss in which the extent of tissue damage within the ulcer cannot be confirmed because it is obscured by slough or eschar.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off Load • Manage Moisture • Cover/Protect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off Load • Manage Moisture • Cover/Protect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off Load • Manage Exudate • Fill cavity • Cover/Protect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off Load • Manage Exudate • Debride if needed • Fill Cavity • Cover/Protect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off Load • Manage Exudate • Debride • Fill Cavity • Cover/Protect
<p><i>Strategies to Protect:</i> Choose Moisture Barrier to match type and level of incontinence. Assess repositioning interval. Assess support surfaces.</p>	<p>Cleanse with normal saline or Wound Cleanser. <i>Light Exudate:</i> Apply Hydrogel, Honey Gauze, Xeroform or Petrolatum Gauze. Change Daily.</p>	<p>Cleanse with normal saline or Wound Cleanser. <i>Light Exudate:</i> Apply Hydrogel or Collagen.</p>	<p>Cleanse with normal saline or Wound Cleanser. <i>Light Exudate:</i> Apply Hydrogel or Collagen.</p>	<p>Cleanse with normal saline or Wound Cleanser. <i>Choose a debridement:</i> Autolytic, enzymatic or sharp debridement. <i>Light Exudate:</i> Apply Hydrogel dressing.</p>

<p>Assess wheel chair positioning and seating.</p>	<p><i>Minimal/Moderate Exudate:</i> Apply Hydrocolloid dressing. Change Q3d.</p>	<p><i>Moderate Exudate:</i> Apply Collagen, Calcium Alginate, Honey or Super Absorbent Dressing. <i>Heavy Exudate:</i> Apply Calcium Alginate, Honey Alginate or Super Absorbent Dressing. Change QD or QOD.</p>	<p><i>Moderate Exudate:</i> Apply Collagen, Calcium Alginate, Honey Alginate or Super Absorbent Dressing. <i>Heavy Exudate:</i> Apply Calcium Alginate, Honey Alginate or Super Absorbent Dressing. Change QD or QOD.</p>	<p><i>Moderate Exudate:</i> Apply Collagen, Calcium Alginate, Honey Alginate or Super Absorbent Dressing. <i>Heavy Exudate:</i> Apply Calcium Alginate, Honey Alginate or Super Absorbent Dressing. Change QD or QOD.</p>
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