

Preventing Pressure Ulcers Collaborative



The Challenge

CHCA's Whole System Measures revealed in 2009 that pressure ulcers were the most commonly reported "never event" in Owner Hospitals. These injuries cause considerable harm to patients and may lead to increased length of stay, infection, surgical intervention, and sepsis.

The cost of managing a single full-thickness pressure ulcer has been estimated to be as high as \$70,000. **Most ulcers are preventable by identifying patients at risk and reliably implementing prevention strategies.** Investments in nurse training and certification as well as prevention and measurement are helping prevent pressure ulcers in pediatric patients.

The Results

Participating hospitals achieved:

- 65% reduction in ICU pressure ulcer prevalence
- 5,400 pressure ulcers averted
- \$7 Million in net cost savings
- Major improvements in process compliance, especially for device-related pressure reduction and preventive care processes

This Collaborative project provides an important foundation on which other pediatric hospitals can build to reduce the suffering of pediatric patients and conserve precious healthcare resources.

The Solution

Consistent **application of basic prevention practices** achieved remarkable results:

1. Skin Assessment
2. Risk Assessment
3. Minimize Pressure
4. Manage Clinical Risk Factors: Moisture, Nutrition & Hydration
5. Maximize Team Function: Education, Leadership, Family Engagement

Teams implemented a set of change concepts over a 10-month action period.

Dig Deeper on chca.com

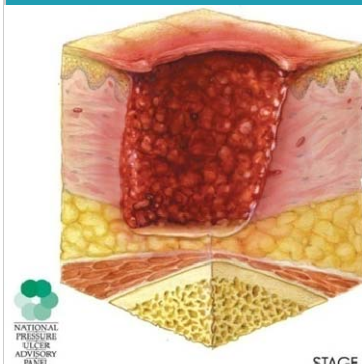
- Mine the Change Package and Measures Grid for new ideas
- Review the comprehensive project deliverable
- Listen to recorded webcasts or review slide presentations
- Explore hospital resources in the Topics Library
- Utilize new CHEX-based learning resources
- Explore product usage information

More Information

Contact Tina.Logsdon@chca.com



Preventing Pressure Ulcers



Hospitals: 14

The Top Performers:

Boston
Orange
Washington DC
Denver
Nashville
New Orleans
Salt Lake City

These teams demonstrated outstanding measurable results as well as comprehensive plans for sustaining and spreading their improvements.