Pressure Ulcer Clinical Pathway





A pressure ulcer is defined as localised damage to the skin and/or underlying tissue, as a result of pressure or pressure in combination with shear.

They usually occur over a bony prominence but may also be related to a medical device or other object (NICE 2023). Pressure ulcers are in the 'top ten harms' in the NHS in England (Fletcher 2022).



Complete PURPOSE T pressure ulcer risk assessment at 1st contact with a healthcare professional. **Risk Assessment GREEN AMBER RED** No pressure ulcer No pressure ulcer but at risk, A pressure ulcer present OR scarring and currently not at risk. with or without vulnerable from a previous pressure ulcer. skin (Discolouration previously known as DTI, blanchable redness that persists, dryness, Categorise the pressure ulcer/s. paper thin, moist including Click here for guidance on categorisation: MASD). Category 1 Category 2 Category 3 Unknown depth / Category 3 at least Category 4 Follow the aSSKINg Follow the aSSKINg Amber Follow the aSSKINg Red Care Plan to **Green Care Plan.** Care Plan to commence commence preventive care. Ongoing care preventive care. Doncaster: Click here for the appropriate Doncaster: Click here for care plan: the appropriate care plan Doncaster: Click here for the appropriate care plan Review of risk, care delivered, Formal review of healing status and healing · Undertake and document a wound assessment at each dressing change/ intervention. · Undertake a regular review and monitoring of healing, at least 4 Formal review of risk status and interventions • If unhealed at 12 weeks undertake a detailed reassessment. · Onward referrals to specialist services, as required. Care following healing status **Static or Deteriorating Healing or no concerns** Specialist review **Ongoing preventative care** Ongoing review of risk · Consider surgical revision • Re-review preventative care

Developed from the National Wound Care Strategy Programme (NWCSP) Pressure Ulcer Recommendations and Clinical Pathway. Fletcher, J. National Wound Care Strategy update: Pressure ulcer prevention and the PSIRF exemplar. 2022, Vol. 18, 4.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) 2023 pressure-ulcers.