

Save the Skin

Pressure Ulcers: Prevention, Staging, and Treatment



Prevention Strategies

Pressure Redistribution

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Optimize Nutrition

Keep Skin Clean and Dry

Staging

Treatment

Intact skin with areas of redness that are localized

Redness does not blanche

1

Barrier Cream
Protective Dressing
Turn and Reposition

Open skin with red/pink color and moist wound bed

Can have blister-like appearance

2

Moist dressing unless infection present

Monitor for further changes

Full thickness skin loss

Tunneling starts to occur

Visible fat tissue or rolled edges

3

Debridement of necrotic tissue

Cover with dressing

Pain control

Treat infection (if present)

Full thickness skin and tissue loss

Muscle, tendon, or bone present in ulcer

4

Unstageable

Full thickness skin and tissue loss that is hidden under Slough (yellow)
Eschar (black)

Debridement of Soft Eschar

Treat as Stage 3 or 4