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PRESSURE
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WORLD WIDE
STOP
PRESSURE ULCERS
www.epuap.org

ALGORITHM FOR PRESSURE ULCER MANAGEMENT FOR PROFESSIONALS

ASSESS PU RISKS
As soon as possible after admission

PATIENT HAS A PRESSURE ULCER

PATIENT IS AT RISK

PATIENT IS NOT AT RISK

PLAN PREVENTIVE AND TREATMENT INTERVENTIONS
- Use protocol/standard/EPUAP guideline
- Use algorithms, scales, tools, technology as appropriate
- Document

IMPLEMENT PLANNED TREATMENT INTERVENTIONS

- Assess the skin damage/stage
- Clean and debride
- Apply/change dressing as per prescription/plan
- Monitor and document the wound
- Manage pain
- Use a multidisciplinary team approach

IMPLEMENT PLANNED PREVENTIVE INTERVENTIONS
if there is:

Restricted mobility/activity:
- Reposition regularly
- Use supportive surfaces redistributing pressure/friction/shear
- Use preventive aids

Skin exposure to moisture:
- Manage incontinence
- Keep the skin clean and dry
- Use linen and clothes made of natural materials
- Use protective products on skin
- Apply prophylactic dressings as appropriate

Nutritional deficit:
- Ensure adequate nutrition rich in protein, vitamins, minerals
- Supplement nutritional deficiency

Dehydration:
- Ensure adequate hydration
- Monitor fluid intake

Pain:
- Apply non-pharmacological methods of pain management
- Administer medication as prescribed

REPEAT THE RISK ASSESSMENT AND THE TISSUE ASSESSMENT
as stated in the local standard, protocol, EPUAP guideline, etc. Assess without delay if the patient's condition changes.

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