

WATERLOW PRESSURE AREA CHART

Name	DOB	Admission Date	Ward	Diagnosis

Question/Area to explore	Score Value	Date	Date	Date	Date
<b>Gender</b>	x	x	x	x	x
Female	2				
Male	1				
<b>Age</b>	x	x	x	x	x
14-49	1				
50-64	2				
65-74	3				
75-80	4				
81+	5				
<b>Height-Weight: BMI</b>	x	x	x	x	x
Average 20 – 24.9	0				
Above average 25 – 29.9	1				
Obese above 30	2				
Below Average below 20	3				
<b>Skin Type-Visual Risks Area</b>	x	x	x	x	x
Healthy	0				
Tissue paper	1				
Dry	1				
Oedematous	1				
Discoloured	2				
Broken spots	3				
<b>Mobility</b>	x	x	x	x	x
Fully mobile	0				
Restless/fidgety	1				
Lethargic	2				
Restricted	3				
Inert/Traction	4				
Chair bound	5				
<b>Continence</b>	x	x	x	x	x
Complete/catheterised	0				
Occasion incontinence	1				
Cath/incontinent of faeces	2				
Doubly incontinent (urine & faeces)	3				
<b>Appetite</b>	x	x	x	x	x
Average	0				
Poor	1				
Naso-gastric tube/Fluids only	2				
Nil by mouth/Anorexia	3				

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<b>Special Risks-Tissue Malnutrition</b>	X	X	X	X	X
Terminal cachexia	8				
Cardiac Failure	5				
Peripheral Vascular disease	5				
Anaemia	2				
Smoking	1				
<b>Special Risks-Neurological Deficits</b>	X	X	X	X	X
Diabetes/MS/CVA-unconscious patient/Motor-sensory paraplegia	4-6				
<b>Special Risks-Major Surgery/Trauma</b>	X	X	X	X	X
Orthopaedic/below waist/spinal	5				
On table/trolley A&E more than 2 hours	5				
<b>Special Risks-Medication</b> high dose steroids, cytotoxics, anti-inflammatory	X	X	X	X	X
None	0				
1 medical preparation	1				
2 medical preparations	2				
3 medical preparations	3				
4 or more medical preparations	4				
Score page 1 + Score page 2 = TOTAL SCORE	X				
Signature	X				

Score: 10+ At Risk; 15+ High Risk; 20+ Very High Risk

## ASSESSMENT

IF THE PATIENT FALLS INTO ANY OF THE RISK CATEGORIES, THEN PREVENTATIVE NURSING IS REQUIRED. A COMBINATION OF GOOD NURSING TECHNIQUES AND PREVENTATIVE AIDS WILL DEFINITELY BE NECESSARY

## PREVENTION

### PREVENTATIVE AIDS:

#### SPECIAL MATTRESS/BED:

- 10+ OVERLAY OR SPECIALIST FOAM MATTRESS I.E. SPHENCO OR VAPERM OVERLAY
- 15+ MIP ANATOMIC SUPPORT MATTRESS OR LOW AIR OR ALTERNATING PRESSURE MATTRESS I.E. PEGASUS, NIMBUS, CLINIREST
- 20+ LOW AIR LOSS AND ALTERNATING PRESSURE MATTRESS I.E. PEGASUS, NIMBUS, CLINIREST OR FLUIDISCO BEAD BED IF ORDERED

#### CUSHIONS:

NO PATIENT SHOULD SIT IN A WHEELCHAIR WITHOUT SOME FORM OF CUSHIONING. IF NOTHING IS AVAILABLE, USE THE PATIENTS OWN PILLOW.

- 10+ = 4" FOAM CUSHION
- 15+ = SPECIALIST GEL AND/OR FOAM CUSHION
- 20+ = CUSHION CAPABLE OF ADJUSTMENT TO SUIT INDIVIDUAL PATIENT

#### BED CLOTHING:

AVOID PLASTIC DRAW SHEETS, INCO PADS AND TIGHTLY TUCKED IN SHEETS, SHEET COVERS, ESPECIALLY WHEN USING SPECIALIST BED AND MATTRESS. OVERLAY SYSTEMS

## NURSING CARE

### GENERAL:

FREQUENT CHANGES OF POSITION, USE CLINICAL JUDGEMENT  
USE OF PILLOWS

### PAIN

APPROPRIATE PAIN CONTROL

### NUTRITION:

HIGH PROTEIN, VITAMINS, MINERALS

### PATIENT HANDLING

CORRECT LIFTING TECHNIQUE

HOISTS

MONKEY POLE

TRANSFER DEVICES

REAL SHEEPSKINS

BED CRADLE

4" COVER PLUS ADEQUATE PROTECTION

### SKIN CARE

GENERAL HYGIENE, NO RUBBING

CORRECT LIFTING AND POSITIONING

COVER WITH APPROPRIATE DRESSING

IF TREATMENT IS REQUIRED, FIRST REMOVE PRESSURE

### WOUND CLASSIFICATION:

NON-BLANCHING HYPERAEMIA STAGE 1 IS WOUND RED, CLEAN BUT NOT HEALED? HYDROCOLLOID, ALGINATE, HYDROGEL, SILASTIC FOAM (DEEP)

ULCERATION PROGRESSES STAGE 2 IS WOUND YELLOW/INFECTED/INFLAMED? ALGINATE, HYDROGEL, HYDROCOLLOID.

ULCERATION EXTENDS STAGE 3 INFECTED? ALGINATE RIBBON OR ROPE, NON ADHERENT TOPICAL ANTI-MICROBIAL DRESSING, POLYSACCHARIDE PASTE.

INFECTIVE NECROSIS STAGE 4 IS WOUND BLACK/NECROTIC? DEBRIDE-SURGICAL EXCISION, HYDROCOLLOID, HYDROGEL, ENZYMATIC TREATMENT.