

Are your patients feeling the pressure?

Start the conversation and help us #StopThePressure

Why is preventing pressure ulcers so important?



Pressure ulcers are a patient safety priority - they can affect anyone, from newborns to those at the end of life and they occur across all care settings, not just in hospital.



Despite ongoing efforts around prevention, pressure ulcers are estimated to cost the NHS more than £1.4 million every day.



Pressure ulcers can:

- Cause significant pain and distress for patients
- Contribute to longer stays in hospital, increasing the risk of complications including infection
- Even be life-threatening



The NHS is still reporting more than 1300 new pressure ulcers a month, (according to NHS Safety Thermometer data).

What can we do about it?

- For healthcare professionals, think **SSKIN**. Start with the **aSSKING** framework for pressure ulcer preventative care:

A ssessment of risk
S kin inspection and care
S upport surface selection and use
K eep your patient moving
I ncontinence and moisture care
N utrition and hydration management
G iving information

- Use the guidance and resources available from NHS Improvement as part of its Stop The Pressure campaign: <http://nhs.stopthepressure.co.uk>

#StopThePressure

Start the conversation!

- Wear a red dot to show your support. The red dot is a simple symbol that we hope will bring attention to the damaging impact of pressure ulcers and enables us to continue the conversation around prevention.
- Use your red dot to have a conversation about the aSSKING framework and share this info with other healthcare professionals, and patients and their families.
- Let's stop the pressure on our patients!