

PSI # 3: Pressure Ulcer

NQF#: Not NQF Endorsed

Developer: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

Data Source: CMS; MHCC

Description: Stage III or IV pressure ulcers or unstageable (secondary diagnosis) per 1,000 discharges among surgical or medical patients aged 18 years and older.

Rationale: Pressure ulcers have been associated with an extended length of hospitalization, sepsis, and mortality. An estimated 60,000 U.S. hospital patients die each year from complications due to hospital-acquired pressure ulcers. The prevalence of pressure ulcers in health care facilities is increasing. Incidence rates vary considerably by clinical setting, with incidence rates ranging from 0.4% to 38% in acute care settings.

Evidence for Rationale:

- Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI). Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Protocol. Health Care Protocol. Bloomington (MN): Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI); 2014 March.

Numerator: Discharges with any secondary ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for pressure ulcer and any secondary ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for pressure ulcer stage III or IV (or unstageable).

ICD-9-CM Pressure ulcer diagnosis codes:

7070	DECUBITUS ULCER	70704	PRESSURE ULCER, HIP
70700	PRESSURE ULCER, SITE NOS	70705	PRESSURE ULCER, BUTTOCK
70701	PRESSURE ULCER, ELBOW	70706	PRESSURE ULCER, ANKLE
70702	PRESSURE ULCER, UPR BACK	70707	PRESSURE ULCER, HEEL
70703	PRESSURE ULCER, LOW BACK	70709	PRESSURE ULCER, SITE NEC

ICD-9-CM Pressure ulcer stage diagnosis codes (required for discharges Oct 1, 2008 or later):

70723	PRESSURE ULCER, STAGE III	70725	PRESSURE ULCER, UNSTAGEBL
70724	PRESSURE ULCER, STAGE IV		

Denominator: Surgical or medical discharges, for patients aged 18 years and older. Surgical and medical discharges are defined by specific DRG or MS-DRG codes. Exclude cases: length of stay of less than 3 days; principal ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for pressure ulcer; secondary ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for pressure ulcer present on admission and any secondary ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for pressure ulcer stage III or IV (or unstageable) present on admission; any-listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for hemiplegia, paraplegia, or quadriplegia; any-listed ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for spina bifida or anoxic brain damage; any-listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes for debridement or pedicle graft before or on the same day as the major operating room procedure (surgical cases only); any-listed ICD-9-CM procedure codes for debridement or pedicle graft as the only major operating room procedure (surgical cases only); transfer from a hospital (different acute care facility); transfer from a Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) or Intermediate Care Facility (ICF); transfer from another health care facility; MDC 14 (pregnancy, childbirth, and puerperium); missing gender, age, quarter, year, or principal diagnosis; principal or any secondary ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes present on admission for major skin disorders (ICD-9)

Impact:

- Large number of patients affected
- The prevalence of pressure ulcers in health care facilities is increasing
- An estimated 60,000 U.S. hospital patients died each year from complications due to hospital-acquired pressure ulcers.

Evidence of High Impact:

- Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI). Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Protocol. Health Care Protocol. Bloomington (MN): Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI); 2014 March.

Opportunity:

- Opportunity for improvement exists, as demonstrated by the coefficient of variation for the measure.

Evidence:

- A literature search of clinical trials, meta-analyses, systematic reviews, or regulatory statements and other professional order sets and protocols was performed, and the quality and strength of evidence was weighted according to a given rating scheme.
- Evidence ratings vary from Class A to Class R, with the vast majority rated from Class C to R.
 - Class A: Randomized, controlled trial
 - Class B: Cohort study
 - Class C: Non-randomized trial with concurrent or historical controls, case-control study, study of sensitivity and specificity of a diagnostic test, population-based descriptive study
 - Class D: Cross-sectional study, case series, case report
 - Class M: Meta-analysis, systematic review, decision analysis, cost-effectiveness analysis
 - Class R: Consensus statement, consensus report, narrative review

Citations for Evidence:

- Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI). Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Protocol. Health Care Protocol. Bloomington (MN): Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI); 2014 March.

http://www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/Downloads/Modules/PSI/V60-ICD09/TechSpecs/PSI_03_Pressure_Ulcer_Rate.pdf