Beyond the Braden
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Problem Statement
• Identified Problem: Significant increase in pressure ulcer incidence during the 4th quarter of 2014
• Unit: 36 bed acute care inpatient medical surgical floor

Background
• Patients who acquired pressure ulcers had a high Braden Score and decreased nutritional status preadmission
• Comparison of units patient population to current literature revealed risk factors Beyond the Braden coinciding with our results

Significance
• Our pressure ulcer incidence was multi-factorial, with an emphasis on nutritional factors, incomplete skin assessments, and inadequate unit resources
• We found many of our patients are at high risk for pressure ulcers based solely on their admission diagnosis and co-morbidities
• Data supported the importance of assessing each patient’s nutritional status pre hospitalization as well as during hospitalization
• Staff accurately identified pressure ulcer risk using the Braden scale; however needed to be encouraged to think Beyond the Braden

Interventions
• Educated unit RN’s about the ability to initiate nutrition and wound ostomy nurse consults
• Communication with providers regarding nutritional status pre and during hospitalization was encouraged
• Number of wound ostomy resource team members was increased (Figure 1)
• This allowed staff to become more comfortable with identifying and treating pressure ulcers and it provided additional unit resources
• Pressure ulcer issues and trends were presented and reviewed during monthly unit based team clinical practice reviews. These reviews also provided an additional forum to educate staff.
• Staff were reeducated about the proper use of linen using the “less is more” approach to decrease friction and shear
• Nutrition staff presented information to all RN’s during quarterly education session

Results
• 4th quarter pressure ulcer prevalence rate was 10.34% (Figure 2)
• After implementation of said interventions, prevalence rate remained at 0.0% for the subsequent four quarters

Sustainability
• Continue to review trends during Unit Based Team and Professional Development Days
• Shift huddle points highlighting interventions to implement. For example: Intentional rounding with emphasis on positioning
• Teach back method while educating patient’s and family related to pressure ulcer prevention

References

Figure 1. Pressure Ulcer Prevalence 7 East

Figure 2.

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