

PRESSURE ULCERS

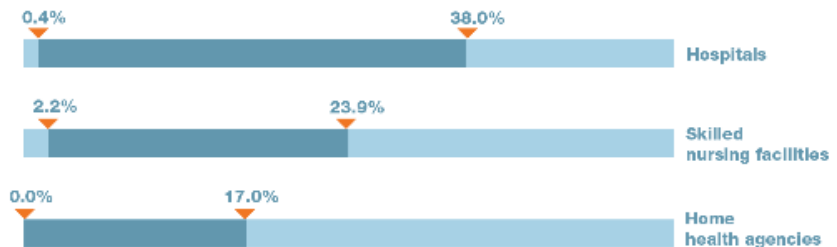
Incidence, Mortality and Financial Impact

Pressure ulcers remain a major health problem affecting 3 million adults, and the burden is growing rapidly due to increasing health care costs, an aging population and a sharp rise in the incidence of diabetes and obesity.



3.0 million adults
are affected by pressure ulcers per year.

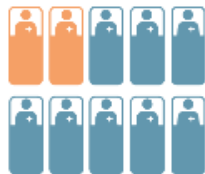
The incidence rates of pressure ulcers range from:



The average length of stay in the hospital for treatment of a pressure ulcer is 13 days – 3x longer than the average length of stay.

2 in 10

19% of patients with a debrided wound, infection or burn are readmitted to a hospital.



#4

In Home Health, Chronic Skin Ulcers ranked as the 4th most common diagnosis for hospital readmission.



The cost to treat pressure ulcers is up to

2.5
times greater than the cost to prevent them.

TREAT vs PREVENT



2-6x

A patient with a pressure ulcer has a 2-6 times greater mortality risk than one with intact skin.

About

60,000

patients die each year as a direct result of a pressure ulcer.



\$11 billion

Annual US expenditures for treating pressure ulcers.

\$20,900 to \$151,700

Cost to treat a pressure ulcer on an individual patient.



\$70,000

Average cost to manage a single full-thickness pressure ulcer.



\$43,180

Cost that each pressure ulcer adds to a hospital stay.

Financial Implications

Evidence-based treatment and pressure ulcer prevention is more important than ever.

ACUTE CARE: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) no longer reimburses for Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcers.

LONG-TERM CARE: Federal regulations allow surveyors to impose fines and withhold federal reimbursement for failure to implement and document evidence-based practice for pressure ulcers.

HOME HEALTH: The implementation of OASIS-C, which measures quality of patient care, could have a financial impact on agencies, as reimbursement could be at risk.



Sources:

National Center for Biotechnology Information | www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) | www.npuap.org

Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) | www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) | www.ahrq.gov