



Prevention of Perioperative Pressure Ulcers Tool Kit

National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel Changes Terminology – *Pressure Injury* Replaces *Pressure Ulcer*

The National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) recently announced changes in terminology and its numbering system related to the processes for assessment and staging of skin breakdown. The term *pressure injury* now replaces *pressure ulcer* and the use of Arabic numbers to describe the stages replaces the use of Roman numerals. The April 13, 2016, press release, explained that the NPUAP decided to change the terminology to more accurately describe pressure injuries to both intact and ulcerated skin.

The definitions in the new staging system include

- Stage 1 Pressure Injury: Non-blanchable erythema of intact skin
- Stage 2 Pressure Injury: Partial-thickness skin loss with exposed dermis
- Stage 3 Pressure Injury: Full-thickness skin loss
- Stage 4 Pressure Injury: Full-thickness skin and tissue loss
- Unstageable Pressure Injury: Obscured full-thickness skin and tissue loss
- Deep Tissue Pressure Injury: Persistent non-blanchable deep red, maroon, or purple discoloration
- Medical Device Related Pressure Injury
- Mucosal Membrane Pressure Injury

In response to these important changes, the content in the Prevention of Perioperative Pressure Ulcers Tool Kit will be amended.

Follow this link to read the NPUAP press release: <http://www.npuap.org/national-pressure-ulcer-advisory-panel-npuap-announces-a-change-in-terminology-from-pressure-ulcer-to-pressure-injury-and-updates-the-stages-of-pressure-injury/>