

Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living (MHSAL) supports reporting and learning from patient safety events. The focus of a patient safety review is to closely look at the health care system that surrounds and interacts with those giving and receiving care. The goal is to identify risks to patient safety and recommend the most effective ways to minimize risk and improve the delivery of healthcare.

Patient Safety Learning Advisory

Stage 3-4 Pressure Injuries in Long Term Care Residents

Summary:

Stage 3-4 pressure injuries were diagnosed in four long term care residents.

Keywords: pressure injury, pressure ulcer

Device Name (if applicable):

Drug/Name/Fluid Name: (if applicable):

Type of Analysis: multiple events

Findings of the Review:

- The wound care policy and procedure was not completely implemented in these cases.
- Documentation of each resident's wound prevention and care plan was limited.
- Resources available for wound prevention and care were not mobilized in a timely manner (e.g., referrals to Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Registered Dietitian and Wound Care Clinician were delayed).
- Lack of interdisciplinary team planning related to resident care delivery increased the likelihood of communication breakdown regarding the care plan.

System Learning:

- Implement wound prevention interventions that are consistent with the client's needs and recognized standards of best practice.
- Promote enhanced interdisciplinary team communication by documenting client specific wound prevention interventions in client health record care plans. This would enhance continuity of best practice care and treatment. Follow up to monitor care plan implementation.
- Provide Health Care Aide education on the inclusion of skin observation/assessment and communicating observed skin changes to nursing staff.

Date of Posting: June 2017