

# Disease Specific Certification (DSC) for *Wound Care*: Key Points 2021

## Barlow Respiratory Hospital's Journey with DSC

In early 2019, Leadership proposed that we apply to The Joint Commission (TJC) for Disease Specific Certification for Wound Care, as a significant percentage of our patients are admitted with pressure injuries. Our application for initial certification was approved by TJC in September 2019. As our 2020 survey was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all three sites will now be surveyed in June 2021. A surveyor will spend time at each of the BRH campuses.

1. We applied for certification because our *Wound Care Program* is a cornerstone of the larger organization-wide performance improvement plan, the purpose of which is to promote a culture of safety with a focus on reliable process and best outcome.
2. Prevention of hospital-acquired conditions, which includes pressure injuries, is a patient safety priority.
3. Barlow's chronically critically ill and medically complex patients have many of the risk factors for developing pressure injuries.
4. Risk factors for the development of pressure injuries include: advanced age, immobility, incontinence, malnutrition, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, poor circulation, and use of medical devices.
5. Accurate skin assessment, care planning, and treatment of pressure injuries is a high priority as approximately 70% of our patients are admitted with at least one pressure injury  $\geq$  stage 2. Approximately 50% of our patients are admitted with multiple pressure injuries.
6. In calendar year 2020, there were 663 patients admitted across the organization. 471/663 (71%) had at least one pressure injury  $\geq$  stage 2; 292/663 (44%) had multiple pressure injuries.
7. The 471 patients presented with a total of 1,247 pressure injuries  $\geq$  stage 2. 48% of these patients had diabetes, 27% had acute renal failure, 18% were on hemodialysis, and 54% were admitted on invasive mechanical ventilation.
8. We measure our progress and success with the current selected performance measures for the program that are reported to TJC monthly:
  - Percent of Patients with Pressure Injuries that are New or Worsened (Stages 2, 3, 4, Unstageable, Deep Tissue Injury)
  - Percent of Patients Admitted with Pressure Injury (Stage 2, 3, 4, Unstageable, Deep Tissue Injury) with Wound Assessment/Care Plan Completed within 24 Hours of Admission
  - Percent of Patients Admitted with Pressure Injury (Stage 2, 3, 4, Unstageable, Deep Tissue Injury) Meeting 90% of Estimated Calorie and Protein Goals by Day 5
  - Percent of Pressure Injuries (Stage 2, 3, 4, Unstageable, Deep Tissue Injury) Present on Admission That Are Healed or Improved at Discharge
9. Our patients and families receive education on: prevention and treatment of pressure injuries; nutrition for preventing and treating pressure injuries.
10. Who is leading the Disease Specific Certification program? Core members: Gladys D'Souza, Maybelline Macaraig, Ana Buchting, Angelica Santos, Noemi Lazarte, Pam Athwal, Jake Dysanco, Sharron Diot, David Murphy, Lana Rhodes, Ny Seng, Rose Gummadi, Rex Linayao, Hao Chen, Dr. David Nelson, Dr. Harry Marshak, Amit Mohan – All WCC RNs, department directors, managers, and staff are part of the process!