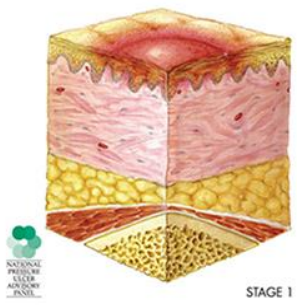
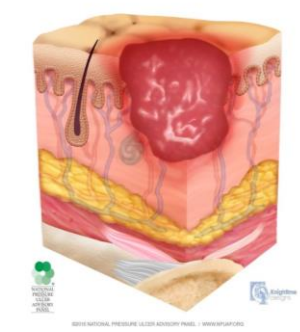
Royal Children's Hospital
Clinical Guideline (Nursing)

MANAGEMENT OF PRESSURE INJURIES

WHAT IS THE RIGHT TREATMENT?

Stage 1 *Non-blanchable erythema* Transparent hydrocolloid adhesive dressing such as ***Comfeel*** • MANGEMENT AIM: protect to prevent further injury • Can be left in-situ for a week but must be changed when soiled • Helps to reduce effects of friction • NB: *Comfeel* has very little absorbency so should only be used on wounds with no or low exudate • Apply *Cavilon* barrier film underneath to prevent adhesive trauma upon removing the *Comfeel*		
Stage 2 *Partial thickness skin loss* Silicone adhesive or non-adherent foam such as ***Mepilex*** • MANAGEMENT AIM: Relieve pressure and protect wound from further trauma/contamination • Absorption layer that draws moisture and exudate from the wound while protecting the surrounding healthy skin from maceration • Mounds well to the skin without sticking to the wound • Silicone properties prevent trauma upon removal		
Stage 3 *Full thickness skin loss* Thorough assessment needs to take place to determine appropriate management. **Hydrogel, Adhesive foam, hydrofiber, alginate or silicone dressing** • MANAGEMENT AIM: Relieve pressure and protect wound from further trauma/contamination • *Hydrogel* – absorbs slough/exudate while creating a moist healing environment • *Hydrofibre* (e.g. Aquacel) – 100% Sodium Carboxylmethyl-cellulose which converts to a soft gel when in contact with wound exudate to absorb exudate and maintain a moist wound environment for healing		
Stage 4 *Full thickness tissue loss* Thorough assessment needs to take place to determine appropriate management. **Hydrogel, Adhesive foam, hydrofiber, alginate or silicone dressing** • MANAGEMENT AIM: relieve pressure and protect wound from further trauma/contamination • *Alginate dressing* (e.g. Kaltostat) – made from brown seaweed, forms a gel when in contact with wound surface to absorb the exudate and promote haemostasis		
Unstageable *Depth unknown* Surgical debridement required • MANAGEMENT AIM: Unable to determine prior to debridement		

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