Pressure Injury Prevention

Link to Advancing Health 2026
Direction 2 Delivering Healthcare: Focus area 2.3 Continuous improvement culture and clinical practice

Pressure injuries are a major contributor to the care requirements of patients within the healthcare sector and are mostly preventable. By supporting evidence-based practice, a continuous improvement culture in clinical practice and empowering our workforce and consumers with education and resources, the pressure injury prevention program has contributed to achieving a reduction in hospital-acquired pressure injury prevalence from 14.0% (2003) to 3.2% (2017).

Program overview
The statewide Strategic Advisory Panel Pressure Injury Prevention Collaborative guides the Pressure Injury Prevention Program. This group of multidisciplinary clinicians and a consumer from various healthcare organisations (public, private, community and non-government) works in a structured and strategic way to improve pressure injury prevention and management practices across Queensland. The group aims to make clinician-driven, evidence-based, patient-focused sustainable best practice changes within healthcare in an effort to reduce injuries and incidence related to pressure injuries and the associated costs.

Impact for health services
If statewide and local pressure injury initiatives had not been instigated, including the Queensland Bedside Audit, and the prevalence of pressure injuries continued to be 14.0% in 2017, it is estimated that approximately an additional 63,597 overnight inpatients would have suffered from a hospital-acquired pressure injury. With each pressure injury adding an average of 4.3 days extra to the length of stay, this reduction is equivalent to a saving of a 749 bed hospital.

Consumer story

Date
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