The Happy Hiney Program: A Reduction of Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcer Injuries

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INTRODUCTION

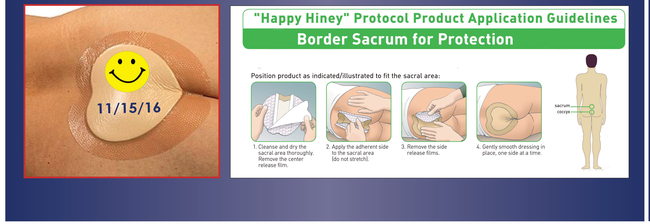
In December 2009, our acute care hospital implemented a comprehensive Pressure Injury Prevention Program titled the "Happy Hiney Program" after identifying 101 HAC (hospital acquired condition) pressure injuries (no stage 3 or 4 PI's) during a 12-month period. As a facility embarking on the Magnet® journey, this was unacceptable. We focused on changing the staff misconception that HAC pressure injuries were not only the WOC nurses responsibility, but were everyone's responsibility. HAC pressure injuries are an indicator of quality and patient safety, reflected in HCAHP scores, and may be associated with financial impact and litigation. Nursing Leadership supported the formation of nurse driven protocols to reduce HAC pressure injuries based on evidence based research (SOE=A) from the NPUAP and EPUAP that focused on combating the 4 extrinsic factors that contribute to HAC Pressure injuries:

4 extrinsic factors to pressure injuries

- Shearing
- Pressure
- Friction
- Microclimate

PREVENTION IS KEY

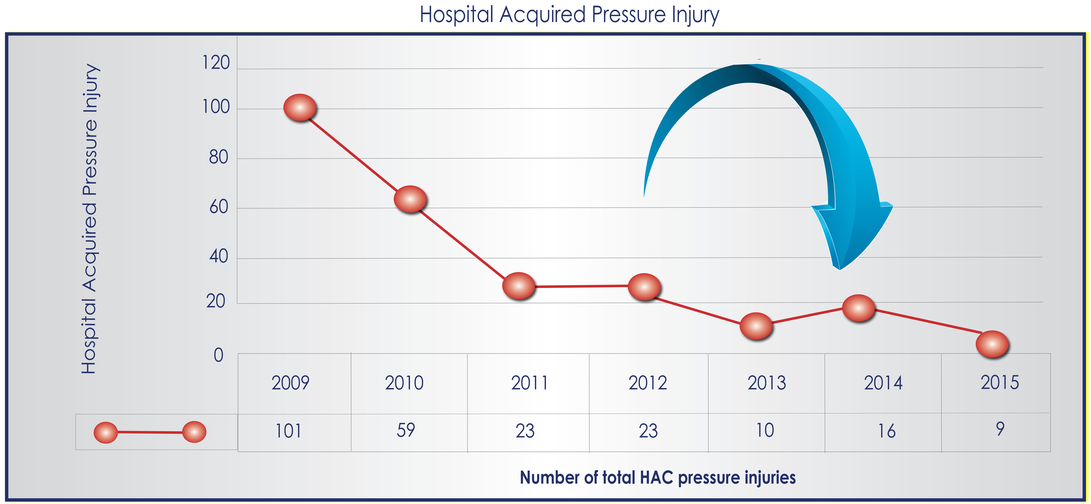
Pressure reduction products and devices are adjuncts to NURSING BEST PRACTICE and NEVER replace turning and repositioning!



STRATEGY and IMPLEMENTATION

1. **Implement "Happy Hiney Program" with nurse driven protocols for at risk patients with a Braden Score of 18 or less by:**
   - Use of a static air overlay mattress and boots for pressure redistribution.
   - Apply prophylactic silicone 5 layer foam dressing to sacrum, label and date with "smiley faces" if skin is intact or "sad faces" if impaired skin is present.
2. **Developed Wound Care Council (WCC) – meets monthly with Skin Care Champions from every unit with goal of :**
   - Preventing HAC PI's
   - Review related products & protocols
   - Complete quarterly Prevalence Studies and share findings.
3. **Education Requirements for clinical staff:**
   - NDNQI pressure ulcer tutorial for 1.5 CEU's credit
   - Mandatory Skills Fair on pressure injury staging, documentation, protocols, and correct product use.
4. **Wound Care Protocols – linked with product photos in supply rooms for quick reference.**

RESULTS



CONCLUSION

These findings show **over 80% sustained reduction in HAC pressure injuries** and prompted support of a comprehensive pressure injury prevention program for high risk patients as Best Practice. These protocols supported achievement of our Magnet® designation and the reduction in our annual HAC pressure injury rates have been sustained over a 6 year time period.

An unexpected finding was the **immediate cost savings of $9751.00 monthly (estimated $117,012/year)** in low air loss bed rentals with use of the static overlay mattress.

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