

May 4, 2010

DDD Clinical Practice Guideline: Pressure Ulcers in the Developmentally Disabled

Dear Care1st Physicians and Staff:

Persons with developmental disabilities are at risk for pressure ulcers especially if they can't reposition themselves or sustain pressure in areas with little fat/muscle underneath the skin. Other causes of skin breakdown include but are not limited to friction, shear, wrinkled sheets or crumbs in their bed.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) has developed guidelines regarding Pressure Ulcers in the Developmentally Disabled which include information on prevention and treatment. It is important to instruct the caregiver of any patient that might be susceptible, to check the skin every day utilizing an assessment tool such as the Braden Scale.

To access the entire Pressure Ulcers in the Developmentally Disabled Clinical Practice Guideline including the Braden Scale:

1. Go to www.care1st.com/az
2. Click on the "Providers" tab
3. Choose "Practice Guidelines & Preventive Health Guidelines" in the drop down menu under the "Providers" tab
4. Click on "Pressure Ulcers in the Developmentally Disabled"

If you have any questions, please contact our DDD Liaison, Kanika Lindsay at 602.778.1800 x1835.

Thank you!