



*Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living (MHSAL) supports reporting and learning from patient safety events. The focus of a patient safety review is to closely look at the health care system that surrounds and interacts with those giving and receiving care. The goal is to identify risks to patient safety and recommend the most effective ways to minimize risk and improve the delivery of healthcare.*

## ***Patient Safety Learning Advisory***

### ***Pressure Injury***

#### **Summary:**

A resident in a long-term care facility developed a stage 3 pressure injury to the hips while in care.

#### **Keywords: Pressure Injury**

This review is based on a single event.

#### **Findings of the Review:**

Elderly resident with multiple pre-existing co-morbidities including cognitive impairment (dementia) unable to comprehend importance of staying off hips; incontinence; and poor nutritional intake lead to the development of a pressure injury.

Staff are unfamiliar with specialty air mattress requirements/usage (reactive versus non-reactive) as the decision tree is difficult to understand.

Not all staff are aware of importance of turning and positioning clients when utilizing a pressure relieving mattress. Some staff felt the mattress was replacing turning and positioning. Turning schedule sheet has inconsistent documentation on it as is kept at various locations on unit.

There is no standardized process for ordering specialty air mattresses in the SDO, thus lead to a 2-month delay in resident receiving replacement mattress. A cost analysis was provided which indicated a large variance in monthly costs associated with pressure relieving mattresses between companies. This is a huge cost savings within the region.

**System Learning:**

**Recommend revisions to supportive documents (Active Support Surfaces Decision Tree CLI.4110.SG.002.SD.03 and Reactive Support Surfaces Decision Tree CLI.4110.SG.002.SD.04) in the Pressure Injury Prevention and Treatment Guideline CLI.4110.SG.002 to be more simplified.**

**Educate 80% of clinical staff on the newly revised supportive documents above once completed.**

**Educate 80% of direct health care providers on the importance of turning and re-positioning residents when utilizing alternating pressure relieving mattresses.**

**Place the “Turning and Positioning Flow Sheet” (CLI.4110.SG.002) in one consistent location on unit at the site.**

**Standardize the ordering/rental process for pressure relieving mattresses.**

**Implement an evaluation tool to assess the effectiveness in wound management when pressure relieving mattresses are being used for clients/residents/patients. (see attached example)**