

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Pressure ulcers quarter 2

The table below highlights the admitted, acquired and unavoidable pressure ulcers for the quarter and the actions taken in response.

Pressure ulcers for quarter 2	Actions taken
<p><u>Pressure ulcer incidence –second quarter</u></p> <p>Admitted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 2 = 130 • Grade 3 = 12 • Grade 4 = 10 <p>Acquired</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 2 = 32 • Grade 3 = 1 • Grade 4 = 0 <p>Unavoidable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 2 = 17 • Grade 3 = 2 • Grade 4 = 0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revised Waterlow assessment for all patients so that any patient with a score of 10 or above receives a dynamic mattress - Number of dynamic mattresses increased to 250 (no patients waiting) - Numbers of seating cushions increased for all those at risk (no patients waiting) -Staff advised to be vigilant regarding potential heel ulcers and to use heel protectors or Prevalon boots as required - Staffing levels increased in elderly care areas - Patients at risk highlight on white boards and handed over to the next shift of staff - Early detection of pressure ulcers identified by patient safety officer - Turning charts in place for all patients at risk -Commissioners to be informed of pressure ulcer incidence at each quality meeting -

Year to date

The charts below show the numbers of pressure ulcers and rate of pressure ulcers to date for 2012 and 2013.

Key points:

- There has been a sharp increase in numbers and rate of pressure ulcers since November 2012 when compared with the previous year.
- Since November, this is entirely due to an increase in grade 2 pressure ulcers
- Last year there were 7 grade 3 pressure ulcers, this year there have been 9, but none since October.

- We are unsure of the precise reasons why there has been an increase this year compared with last year, when all other inputs have been sustained and additional actions have been put in place. This could be due to better reporting of Grade 2 pressure ulcers, or due to the effects of an increase in patient acuity due to the increase in numbers of emergency patients. Between October and December 2012 there were 13,169 non elective admitted patients, in 2013 during the same period there were 13,720 (increase of 551 pts.)
- We are continuing to closely monitor the situation and are reassured by there being no significant increase in more serious grade 3 and grade 4 ulcers.