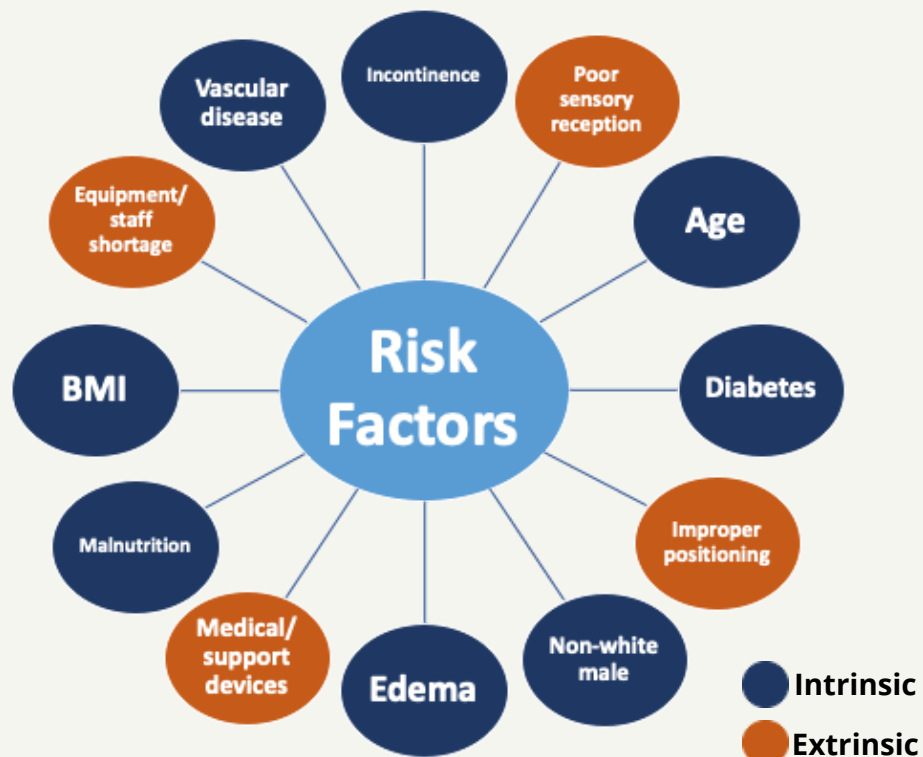


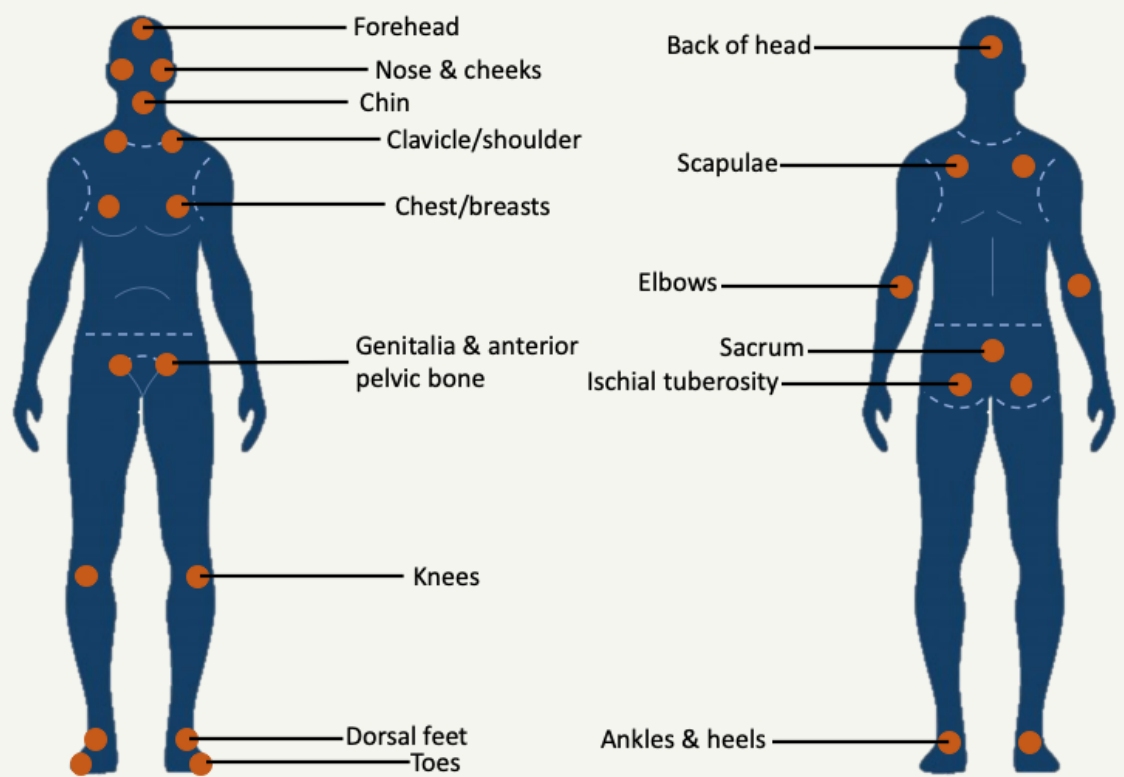
PRESSURE INJURY

Protecting the Skin | The Largest Organ of the Body

A **pressure injury** is localized damage of the skin and/or soft tissue that usually overlies a bony prominence. It is the result of intense or prolonged pressure, friction, and/or shear.



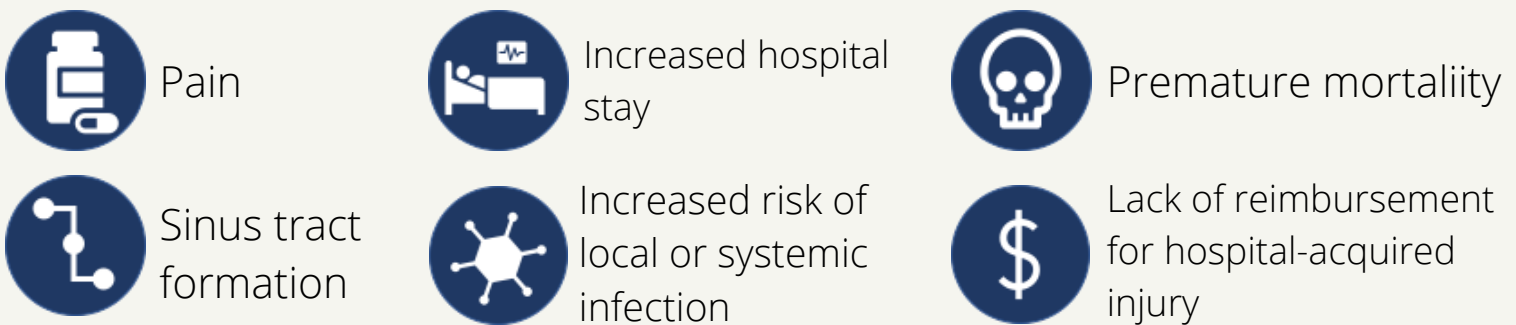
Common Locations & Staging



Prevention & Treatment

- Utilization of risk assessment tools for early identification and intervention** & frequent skin assessment intervals
- Proper selection and utilization of support devices** designed to redistribute pressure, reduce shear forces, and manage humidity & hygiene on the skin of soft tissues. Avoid positioning patients on areas of pressure injury and frequently assess skin beneath and around medical devices.
- Provide local wound care & utilize wound dressings;** assess the need for possible surgical debridement.
- Treat underlying conditions** that can worsen risk factors- especially those that worsen tissue perfusion and oxygenation.
- Assess nutritional status** and, if necessary, initiate early supplemental nutrition.
- All members of the interdisciplinary team are expected to **monitor, report, & activate an appropriate plan of care**

Consequences of Pressure Injury



• failure of early identification/management worsens existing pressure injury •

Considering Other Diagnoses

Areas of tissue damage that are likely not related to pressure, shear, friction, or compression by a medical device are most likely not pressure injuries, and other diagnoses should be considered.

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