

Protecting immobile, frail patients with orthopaedic trauma against pressure ulcers

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INTRODUCTION

- 3117 orthopaedic trauma admissions per year
- 18 % increase
- dependency and acuity of patients increased
- ongoing month on month hospital acquired pressure damage
- up to 5 patients per month developing hospital acquired pressure damage

AIM

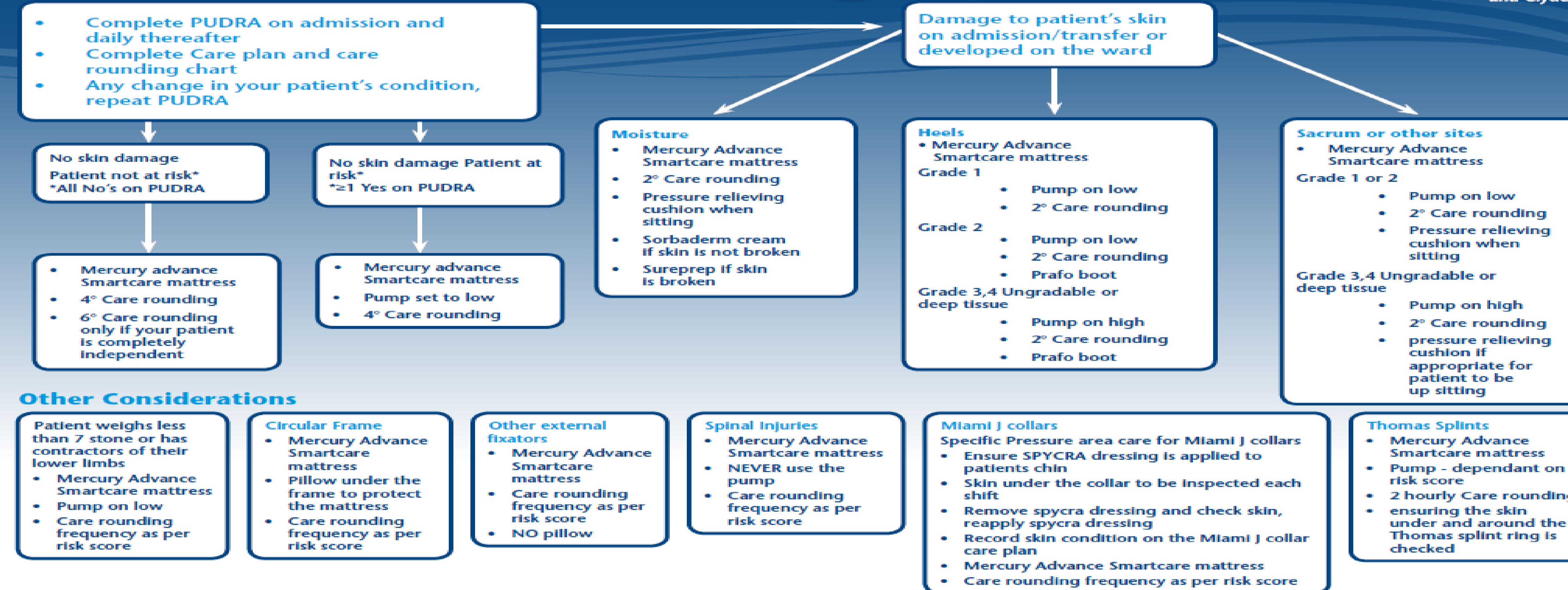
To eliminate all hospital acquired pressure damage within two orthopaedic units

METHOD

- Implementation of education sessions with a back to basic approach for all staff focusing on anatomy, risk assessment, grading, current products
- Review of pressure redistributing mattresses with view to pre-equipping all beds
- Direct Healthcare Mercury Advance Smart care mattress
- Pressure area management algorithm



Pressure Area Management



RESULTS

- ZERO pressure damage since pre-equipping units – in one unit this has facilitated two consecutive months and in the other maintenance of zero pressure damage for five months
- Staff increased knowledge and confidence

DISCUSSION

Pre-equipping beds with a high specification pressure redistributing mattress with supporting education and pressure management algorithm has demonstrated clear clinical benefits by eliminating hospital acquired pressure damage