

TRUST BOARD: BRIEFING NOTE

Meeting Details:	Thursday 24 th September 2026																												
Director:	Mrs Donna Keenan, Director of Nursing, Midwifery & AHP Services																												
Issue Title:	Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) Targets Quarterly Trust Board Report – Pressure Ulcers																												
Indicate connection with Trust’s Mission and Vision <i>(please tick)</i>	☒ People who need us feel cared for ☒ People who work with us feel proud ☐ People who live in our communities trust us																												
Indicate link to Trust’s strategic priorities <i>(please tick)</i>	☒ Quality and Safety ☐ Workforce Stabilisation ☐ Performance and Access to Services ☐ Delivering Value ☐ Culture																												
Summary of issue to be discussed:	The Trust continues to monitor the incidence of hospital and community acquired pressure ulcers as part of the Quality Improvement Plan with a particular focus on reducing avoidable harm and ensuring learning from pressure ulcer incidents is translated into improvements in clinical practice. <u>Pressure Ulcer Position: 2024/25 vs 2025/26</u> <i>Data verified from the monthly Pressure Ulcer data collection figures provided WHSCT Tissue Viability Team</i> <table><tr><th>Pressure Ulcer Category</th><th>2024/25</th><th>2025/26</th><th>Change</th></tr><tr><td>Hospital Acquired Stage 2</td><td>328</td><td>321</td><td>-7</td></tr><tr><td>Hospital Acquired Stage 3</td><td>63</td><td>77</td><td>+14</td></tr><tr><td>Hospital Acquired avoidable Stage 3</td><td>34</td><td>43</td><td>+9</td></tr><tr><td>Community Acquired Stage 2</td><td>91</td><td>89</td><td>-2</td></tr><tr><td>Community Acquired Stage 3</td><td>28</td><td>39</td><td>+11</td></tr><tr><td>Community Acquired avoidable Stage 3</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>+1</td></tr></table> During 2025/26, 398 Stage 2 and Stage 3 Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcers were reported, comprising 321 Stage 2 and 77 Stage 3 Pressure Ulcers. This compares with 391 Stage 2 and Stage 3 Pressure Ulcers during 2024/25.	Pressure Ulcer Category	2024/25	2025/26	Change	Hospital Acquired Stage 2	328	321	-7	Hospital Acquired Stage 3	63	77	+14	Hospital Acquired avoidable Stage 3	34	43	+9	Community Acquired Stage 2	91	89	-2	Community Acquired Stage 3	28	39	+11	Community Acquired avoidable Stage 3	0	1	+1
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Hospital Acquired Stage 2 Pressure Ulcers reduced slightly from 328 in 2024/25 to 321 in 2025/26. However, Stage 3 Pressure Ulcers increased from 63 to 77. Of the 77 Hospital Acquired Stage 3 Pressure Ulcers reported during 2025/26, 43 were assessed as avoidable, equating to an average of approximately 3.6 avoidable Stage 3 Pressure Ulcers per month.

Within Community Services, 128 Stage 2 and Stage 3 Community Acquired Pressure Ulcers were reported during 2025/26, comprising 89 Stage 2 and 39 Stage 3 Pressure Ulcers, compared with 119 during 2024/25. Stage 2 incidence remained broadly stable, reducing from 91 to 89, while Stage 3 Pressure Ulcers increased from 28 to 39. Of the 39 Community Acquired Stage 3 Pressure Ulcers reported during 2025/26, one was assessed as avoidable.

Overall, 44 avoidable Stage 3 Pressure Ulcers were recorded across Hospital and Community Services during 2025/26, with 43 occurring within Hospital and one within Community Services.

Key Considerations / Risks

The increase in Stage 3 Hospital and Community Acquired Pressure Ulcers during 2025/26 requires continued scrutiny and targeted improvement activity. A notable increase in reported pressure ulcers was also observed during Quarter 4, particularly within hospital services.

Pressure ulcer incidents Stage 3 and above are subject to ongoing post-incident reviews by the Tissue Viability Team, with themes and contributory factors routinely identified and used to inform targeted improvement activity. Themes identified during 2025/26 have included operational pressures within the Emergency Departments, alongside the complexity and acuity of patients at risk of pressure damage. Learning from these reviews is shared with relevant clinical teams and used to support focused actions to strengthen prevention and reduce avoidable harm.

Actions being taken

The Tissue Viability Service continues to review pressure ulcer incidents and trends, with learning shared through the appropriate clinical and governance structures.

	Targeted support and education are being provided to clinical areas where increased incidence or recurring themes are identified. Work continues to reinforce compliance with pressure ulcer risk assessment, skin assessment, repositioning, nutrition and hydration, appropriate equipment provision and timely escalation to specialist services. Incident reviews are being used to identify contributory factors and opportunities for learning, with focused improvement plans developed where required. Pressure ulcer incidence will continue to be monitored through the Quality Improvement Plan, with particular attention to Stage 3 and above avoidable pressure ulcers. Targeted review and improvement activity will be focused on clinical areas where increased incidence or recurring themes are identified, including area experiencing particular service pressures.
Trust Board Response	☐ For Approval ☒ To Note ☐ Decision