

Accountability

The S.K.I.N. team educates staff on risk identification, staging and prevention of pressure ulcers. The S.K.I.N. bundle is an effort to ensure best practices become standard practice at MUSC. In addition to the S.K.I.N. bundle, patients who already have or are at risk of developing pressure ulcers will now be easily identified. A blue iceberg symbol encased in a black circle will be visible on patient wrist bands and the front of charts. The iceberg symbolizes that although there is visible damage on the surface, what is below could potentially be more serious.

Pressure ulcers, which commonly occur in the posterior pelvic region and the heel or ankle region, are associated with a longer length of hospital stay, sepsis, increased pain and suffering and mortality, according to Phillip Botham, BSN, RN, ET, CWON, a Wound and Ostomy nurse in the Department of Specialty Nursing.

“Great progress has been noted in reducing our pressure ulcer incidence during the past year, and a dedicated group of professionals from the bedside, emergency room, operating room, dialysis and ancillary areas of the hospital are working to change the culture here at MUSC,” Botham said.

Progress Reducing Pressure Ulcers Incidents

	2Q CY12	3Q CY12	4Q CY12	1Q CY13	2Q CY13	3Q CY13
# Patients Surveyed	432	646	482	515	318	413
Pts with Pressure Ulcers	64 (15%)	52 (11%)	46 (9.5%)	47 (9.1%)	35 (11%)	56 (13%)
Patients with HAPU \geq Stage II	56 (13%)	37 (8%)	16 (3.3%)	24 (4.7%)	14 (4.4%)	32 (7.7%)
MUSC Pats with HAPU \geq Stage II	14.30%	6.13%	4.12%	5.10%	5.48%	NA ⁺
NDNQI Magnet HAPU \geq Stage II Mean	1.80%	1.70%	1.90%	1.90%	1.70%	NA ⁺