Pressure Injury
Alert Sticker
- Guidelines for Use -
Introduction
The following sticker has been developed to:

- ensure the provision of safe and highest quality care
- improve reporting and documentation of pressure injuries
- ensure each pressure injury is appropriately staged and clearly documented in the notes – to support clinical coders
- alert healthcare workers of an identified pressure injury
- effectively manage pressure injuries when they occur and to inform prevention strategies for the future.

Key Points

✓ One sticker to be used per pressure injury.
✓ The NPUAP/EPUAP Pressure Ulcer Classification System should be used to stage all pressure injuries.
✓ Complete a Datix CIMS for all identified hospital acquired pressure injuries.
✓ The sticker is NOT to be used for mucosal pressure injuries.

What to do
When a pressure injury is identified, complete the Pressure Injury Alert sticker as shown in figure 1 and place it in the integrated patient notes.

Figure 1: Pressure Injury Alert Sticker
Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: Can I report multiple pressure injuries on the one sticker?
No, please use one sticker per injury

Q2: Can I leave sections of the sticker blank?
No, please complete all sections of the sticker

Q3: When is a new sticker required?
- Each time a new pressure injury is identified
- If the classification of a pressure injury changes (e.g. changes from Stage II to III)
- A new sticker is needed each admission/ discharge or transfer between organisations.
- A new sticker is not needed on transfer from ward to ward.

Q4: Do I still need to report the pressure injury on Datix CIMS?
Yes, a clinical incident report should be submitted via the Datix CIMS for all:
- Hospital acquired pressure injuries (HAPI)*
- Pressure injuries that have significantly deteriorated (progressed to the next stage of pressure injury) since admission.

Q5: How do I report mucosal membrane pressure injuries?
Mucosal Pressure Injuries should be documented in the patient medical report and a Datix CIMS report should be submitted. Do not use the alert sticker as they are coded separately.

Suggested Datix CIMS Reporting of Pressure Injuries
- Clinical staff should be provided with education to ensure that patient assessment documentation on admission includes a skin assessment and that any existing pressure injuries present on admission are reported on Datix CIMS and clearly documented.
- All pressure injury clinical incidents should be submitted under tier 1 “Pressure Ulcers” on Datix CIMS.
- All clinical incidents should be investigated according to the Department of Health Clinical Incident Management Policy.
Examples where the pressure injury is classified as a Severity Assessment Code (SAC 1) clinical incident are as follows:

- **Significant increase in level of care include:**
  - Where the hospital acquired pressure injury (HAPI) directly causes an increased length of stay for more than 7 days
  - Where the HAPI directly results in a higher level of care required such as; admission to ICU, high dependency unit or referral to a tertiary center to manage complications of the injury
  - Where an additional or unplanned procedure/surgery (anesthetic) is directly required to treat the HAPI

- **Significant complication causing permanent disability include:**
  - HAPI resulting in Amputation
  - HAPI resulting in permanent significant scarring
  - HAPI resulting in loss of function to limb or organ
  - HAPI resulting in paralysis.

- **Death or permanent disability include:**
  - HAPI causing infection leading to sepsis and death
  - HAPI causing blood loss directly leading to anemia and or hypovolemia and death.