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Resources & Services

[Wound Care Education for the Health and Care Workforce - elearning for healthcare \(e-lfh.org.uk\)](#)

[Download the Wound Care Workforce Framework](#)



7 Minute Briefing: Pressure Ulcers



[Bury Safeguarding Partnership](#)

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Background

Pressure ulcers serve as a significant measure of care quality and reflect the individual's experience within the healthcare system. Their impact can lead to serious health outcomes, including poor quality of life, and morbidity. In addition, they often cause distress for both individuals and their families. Fortunately, most pressure ulcers are preventable when the right resources, equipment, and coordinated efforts from a multidisciplinary team are in place. **Ensuring that every interaction contributes to prevention is essential.**

[Pressure Ulcers Explained - Video](#)

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Questions to consider

- Remember that pressure ulcers can occur with many people, not just people who are bed bound or elderly.
 - Are you familiar with guidance on how to recognise pressure ulcers, how to manage them and when to raise concerns?
- Consider raising a safeguarding if there are any concerns.
- Utilise all necessary available training.

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Why it matters

Prevention of pressure ulcers is everyone's responsibility.

The presence of pressure ulcers may also indicate safeguarding concerns, especially when they are deemed avoidable. Such cases are frequently linked to broader issues, including potential neglect.

Department of Health and Social Care advises on how to respond to individuals at risk [Pressure ulcers: how to safeguard adults](#)

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The aSSKING Framework

The National Wound Care Strategy Programme produced the [aSSKING framework](#):

Assess risk
Skin assessment and skin care
Surface
Keep moving
Incontinence or increased moisture
Nutrition
Give Information

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What you should do

Read more about [Pressure Ulcers: Safeguarding Adults Protocol](#).

If there is no suggestion or suspicion of abuse, acts of omission, or neglect there is no need to report a concern. If there are safeguarding concerns in relation to a pressure ulcer/pressure ulcers, [report your concern](#).

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Information

An essential part of addressing this issue involves preventing harm when pressure ulcers occur and initiating a safeguarding referral if there are any signs of neglect or abuse affecting the individual. The Protocol provides a national framework, identifying pressure ulcers as primarily an issue for clinical investigation rather than a safeguarding enquiry led by the local authority. It includes a [Decision Guide](#) to help decide when a pressure ulcer case may need to be referred.