



Residential Care and Assisted Living Newsletter

IDAPA 16.03.22 Rule Changes

With the conclusion of the legislative session, new rules have now taken effect. Please go to our Web site at www.assistedliving.idaho.gov to review the rule changes. As always, when there are rule changes, we want to ensure everyone has the opportunity to ask questions in order to understand how the new rules will affect them.

We are currently gathering your questions. After the questions are gathered, a special Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document will be published on our Web site.

Please submit your questions to our office by mail at PO Box 83720 Boise ID 83720-0036 or by e-mail at ALC@dhw.idaho.gov by May 10, 2010.



April 2010

Pressure Ulcers: The Stages You Need to Know

Recently, we have observed several instances where residents' pressure ulcers were not staged or were identified as "unstagable". We want to address this concern to help you determine if a resident may be admitted or remain in your facility.

Remember, IDAPA rule 16.03.22.152.05.b states, "No resident will be admitted or retained who requires ongoing skilled nursing care not within the legally licensed authority of the facility. Such residents include: A resident with Stage III or IV pressure ulcer."

Stage One: Intact skin with non-blanchable (does not turn white when pressing on skin) redness of a localized area usually over a bony prominence. Darkly pigmented skin may not have visible blanching; its color may differ from the surrounding area.

Stage Two: Partial thickness loss of the dermis presenting as a shallow, open ulcer with a red pink wound bed, without slough. May also present as an intact or open/ruptured serum-filled blister.

Stage Three: Full thickness tissues loss. Subcutaneous fat may be visible but bone, tendon, or muscle are not exposed. Slough may be present but does not obscure the depth of tissue loss. May include undermining and tunneling.

Stage Four: Full thickness tissue loss with exposed bone, tendon, or muscle. Slough or eschar may be present on some parts of the wound bed. Often includes undermining and tunneling.

Unstageable: Full thickness tissue loss in which the base of the ulcer is covered by slough (yellow, tan, gray, green, or brown) and/or eschar (tan, brown, or black) in the wound bed.

By the definitions outlined by the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, a resident who has an unstageable pressure ulcer or has an ulcer with eschar, has characteristics of a pressure ulcer that is greater than a Stage II. These residents should not be retained or admitted to an assisted living facility.

For more information about the description and staging of pressure ulcers, visit the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panels Web site at www.npuap.org. **Note:** The information above is referenced from the "National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel: Updated Staging System (2/2007)".

New Training Resources Have Been Posted to Our Website!

They include "Behavior Management: Evaluation", "Behavior Management: Program Development and Data Collection", and "Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias".

To locate the new trainings, go to the provider section of the Web site at www.assistedliving.dhw.idaho.gov and scroll to the bottom of the page. The trainings are located in the "Training Resources" section.

For the most current information, please visit our Web site at www.assistedliving.dhw.idaho.gov. You can also call us at (208) 334-6626, fax information to (208) 364-1888, or email us at ALC@dhw.idaho.gov.