

## Pressure Ulcer Position Report, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### **Background**

In April 2018, the SEHSCT Total Bed Management (TBM) contract was awarded to a new supplier following completion of a full tendering process led by the Business Supplies Organisation (BSO) Pals. This included the supply of new bedframes and mattresses across the four acute hospital sites, (excluding mental health, Wd 11 LVH, Downe Dementia). LVH and Downe site were historically under a different contractual agreement for dynamic systems which remains until Sept 2019 but are due to be aligned under the same TBM contract after this time.

The tender requested a 'non powered reactive support surface capable of managing and preventing up to stage 3 damage and having a durable life expectancy of a minimum of 3 years. However, not long after the introduction of the new mattresses reports of mattress damage were being received in significant numbers. In addition, our pressure ulcer incidence data started to rise, correlating with the introduction of the new contract. Ongoing monitoring indicated that care remained appropriate and compliance with the SKINN bundle remained robust. Further investigation to identify the cause of the increase in pressure ulcer damage indicated that it was likely the quality of the new mattresses was the issue.

### **Action to address**

In order to mitigate any risk to patients, clinical staff were advised to upgrade to a dynamic system without delay for anyone assessed as 'at risk' of pressure damage, in conjunction with clinical judgement, until a permanent solution is agreed. BSO continued to work with the Trust and the supplier to seek the best solution. When our concerns were highlighted the supplier carried out an audit across all hospital sites in late December 2018. Out of 891 mattresses, 49% were included in the audit of which 20% were found to have a fault with the top layer of foam. A further 6 mattresses were taken off site for further testing. Following this action, the supplier reported they been unable to find the source of the fault.

As a result of a Trust meeting held on 14 February 2019 and further follow-up discussion with BSO and the supplier the following solution has been agreed:

- All inpatient areas would carry out a full audit and where damage was identified the mattresses would be replaced immediately
- Any patient deemed at risk of pressure damage would be upgraded immediately to a Dynamic mattress
- Close monitoring of upgrading of mattresses and pressure ulcer incidence would continue with support provided to clinical areas by the Tissue Viability Team
- The supplier agreed to replace the contracted mattresses with an alternative



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- Implementation of the new mattresses is to begin early April 2019 and likely to complete by end of May 2019
- As a short term solution the supplier have replaced 450 foam toppers of the original mattress, they continue to replace any faulty mattresses as and when they are reported
- The supplier have agreed provide clinical support to the Tissue Viability team which will support education and imbed confidence in the new product.

The renewal of the TBM contract with the replacement mattresses will meet the requirements of the original tender. Moreover, assurance has been provided regarding the quality of the product through clinical validation in North Bristol NHS Trust where the mattress has been in use since 2016. The Trust will continue to ensure robust monitoring of mattress utilisation and pressure ulcer incidents throughout the replacement process.

### Pressure Ulcer Data:

To date we have reported **166** Pressure Ulcers 2018/19,  
(**98** stage 2, **56** Stage 3 and above, **10** Medical device related).

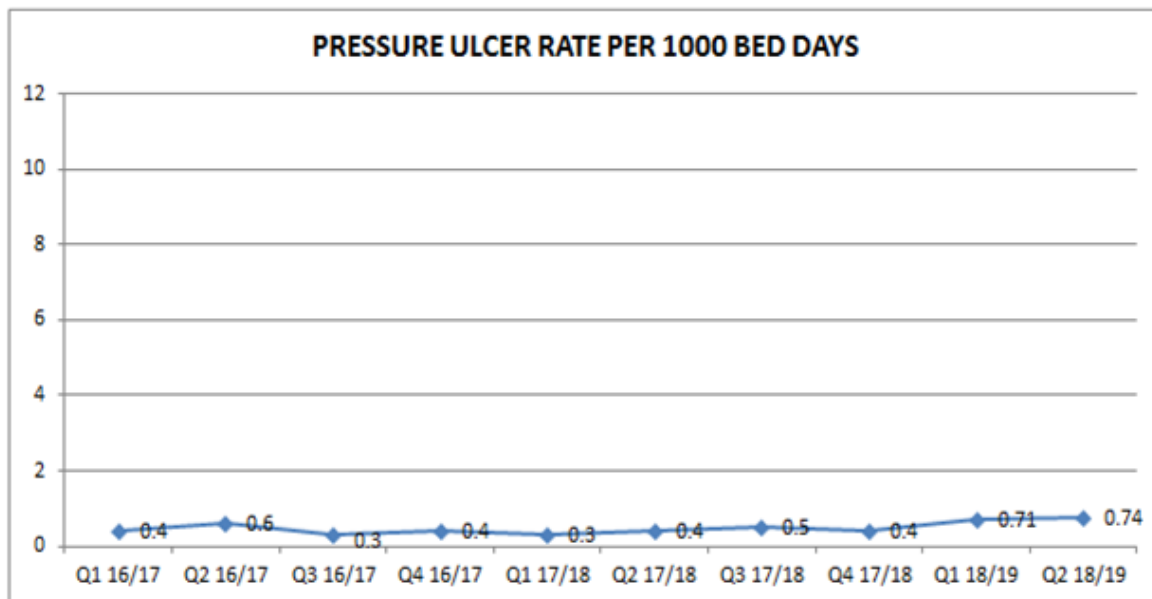
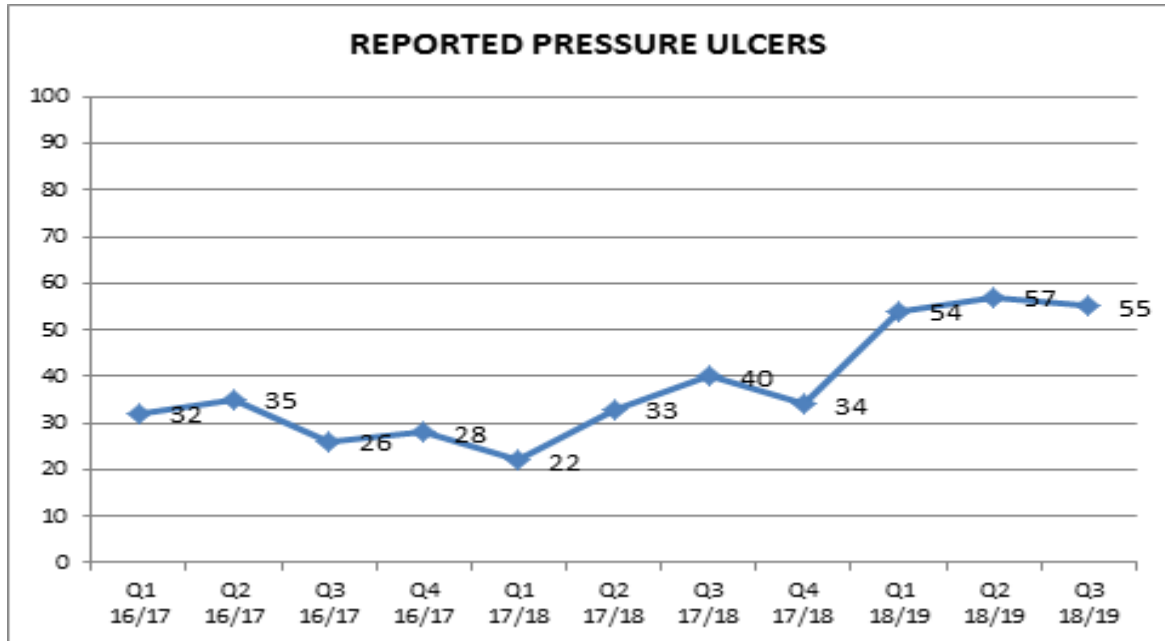
PRESSURE ULCER	2017/18 Reported Pressure Ulcers	2018/19 Reported Pressure Ulcers
Q1 (April 2018 to June 2018)	22	54
Q2 (July 2018 to September 2018)	33	57
Q3 (October 2018 to December 2018)	40	55
Q4 (January 2019 to March 2019)	34	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>129</b>	

In comparison 2017/18 in total 129 pressure ulcers reported

(**78** stage 2, **52** stage 3 and above).

Medical device related were not required to be reported separately at this time.

PRESSURE ULCER	2017/18 Avoidable Pressure Ulcers	2018/19 Avoidable Pressure Ulcers
Q1 (April 2018 to June 2018)	2	3
Q2 (July 2018 to September 2018)	3	2
Q3 (October 2018 to December 2018)	2	1
Q4 (January 2019 to March 2019)	1	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>



NB: PRESSURE ULCER RATE WILL BE UPDATED FOR Q3 2018/19 IN NEXT REPORT – AWAITING FIGURES FROM PHA



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