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PRESSURE
ULCER
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**Governmental Agencies and Professional Organizations Support NPUAP's
Pressure Injury Staging System**

Washington, DC - The NPUAP revised the Pressure Injury Staging System following a consensus conference in April. The response to the changes has been positive. To date, The Joint Commission (TJC) has adopted the new terminology and CMS has been in discussions with the NPUAP to incorporate the new terminology. The rollout of the changes will be controlled by these agencies. The National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators (NDNQI) is also changing their materials to use the new terminology with changes to be in place by 2017. Changes to Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine Clinical Terms (SNOMED CT) and Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC) are being explored. NPUAP is also working to introduce the changes into the ICD-11 payment codes.

In addition, the Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses (WOCN) Society, the Canadian Association of Enterostomal Therapists (CAET), the Pan Pacific Pressure Injury Alliance (PPPIA) of Australia, the Hong Kong Enterostomal Nurses Association, the New Zealand Wound Care Society, the Wound Healing Society of Singapore, and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics have publically endorsed the changes.

NPUAP recognizes that making changes in literature and electronic medical records is time consuming and costly. Because the changes to the 6 stages of pressure injury were changes only to title and wording – *what was a stage II is still a stage 2 and the treatment has not changed* – the changes within local facilities need not be made in a hurried manner. The pressure injury terminology changes can be made when routine updates of the policies, procedures and EMR documentation are done within institutions and organizations..

The National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel is a multidisciplinary group of experts in pressure injury. The NPUAP serves as the authoritative voice for improved patient outcomes in pressure injury prevention and treatment through public policy, education and research. Contact NPUAP at npuap@npuap.org.

The National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel provides multidisciplinary leadership for improved patient outcomes in pressure injury prevention and management through education, public policy and research.