

# A HAPI Prevention Program: Eliminating Hospital Acquired Pressure Injuries

Amanda Lass MSN, RN, NE-BC | Amy Dagestad MBA, MSN, RN, NE-BC, RNC-OB

## PROJECT PURPOSE

Preventing hospital acquired pressure injuries (HAPIs) in healthcare has been a challenge for many years and aging patient populations and increasing comorbidities and acuities have intensified these challenges<sup>2</sup>.

With an estimated

**60,000** + **17,000**  
PATIENT DEATHS + LAWSUITS FILED

**every year related to HAPIs,**

we understood the importance of focusing on reducing HAPIs in our organization<sup>3</sup>.

Despite implementing multiple strategies over many years, we continued to see HAPIs develop during patients' hospital stays.

**JULY 2020 — MARCH 2021**

- Validation tool implemented
- Reduction in HAPIs to two
    - Shift Safety Checklist
  - Braden score less than 18
    - Real time follow-up

**APRIL 2021 — PRESENT**

Reduction in HAPIs to zero patients developing HAPIs.

## EVALUATION/OUTCOMES

Shifting from a responsive focus to a preventative focus while assessing and mitigating the barriers and challenges at the patient and staff levels has helped us develop and implement a HAPI Prevention Program that is comprehensive with attainable and sustainable goals<sup>2</sup>

When this project was first launched, we implemented two-person skin assessments that were to be completed twice per week. We quickly learned that this was not enough to be successful. This led to the creation of the validation process, which allowed leaders to hold staff accountable to the expectations. HAPI prevention is now part of the unit's culture and staff remain engaged in the prevention process.

Experts predict that with a

**50% REDUCTION IN HAPIs**

organizations will save an average of

**\$5,000,000 A YEAR<sup>3</sup>**

and these numbers reinforced our need for a HAPI Prevention Program that included on admission two-person skin assessments, twice weekly two-person skin assessments, and a validation tool with real-time follow-up.

Since full implementation of the **HAPI Prevention Program,**

we have improved skin assessment completion through validations from less than 50% compliance to

OVER **90% COMPLIANCE**

**7** **MAY — DECEMBER 2018**

Seven patients develop HAPIs, an average of one patient per month.

**15**

**JANUARY 2019 — JUNE 2020**

Two-person skin assessments, twice weekly was implemented. 15 additional patients develop HAPIs.

**2**

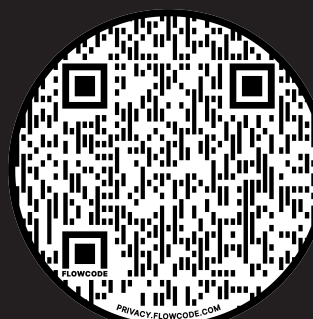
MORE THAN  
**560 DAYS**

WITHOUT A STAGE 1 OR 2 HAPI

MORE THAN  
**3450 DAYS**

WITHOUT A STAGE 3 OR 4 HAPI

**0**



Scan the QR code for references and contact information.