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Skin In the Game: The Situation, Science & Solution

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Amit Gefen, PhD

Terry Emerson, DNP, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC

ADVOCACY Take a Stand



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Speaker: Susan M. Scott, MSN, RN, WOC Nurse – Independent Consultant, and CEO Scott Triggers PLLC

- Speaker Bureau and Consultant Stryker, Molnlycke, Scott Triggers PLLC

Speaker: Amit Gefen, PhD – Full Professor with the Department of Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering of Tel Aviv University

- No conflicts to disclose

Speaker: Terry Emerson, DNP, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC – Nurse Manager, The Johns Hopkins Hospital

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Learning Outcome(s)

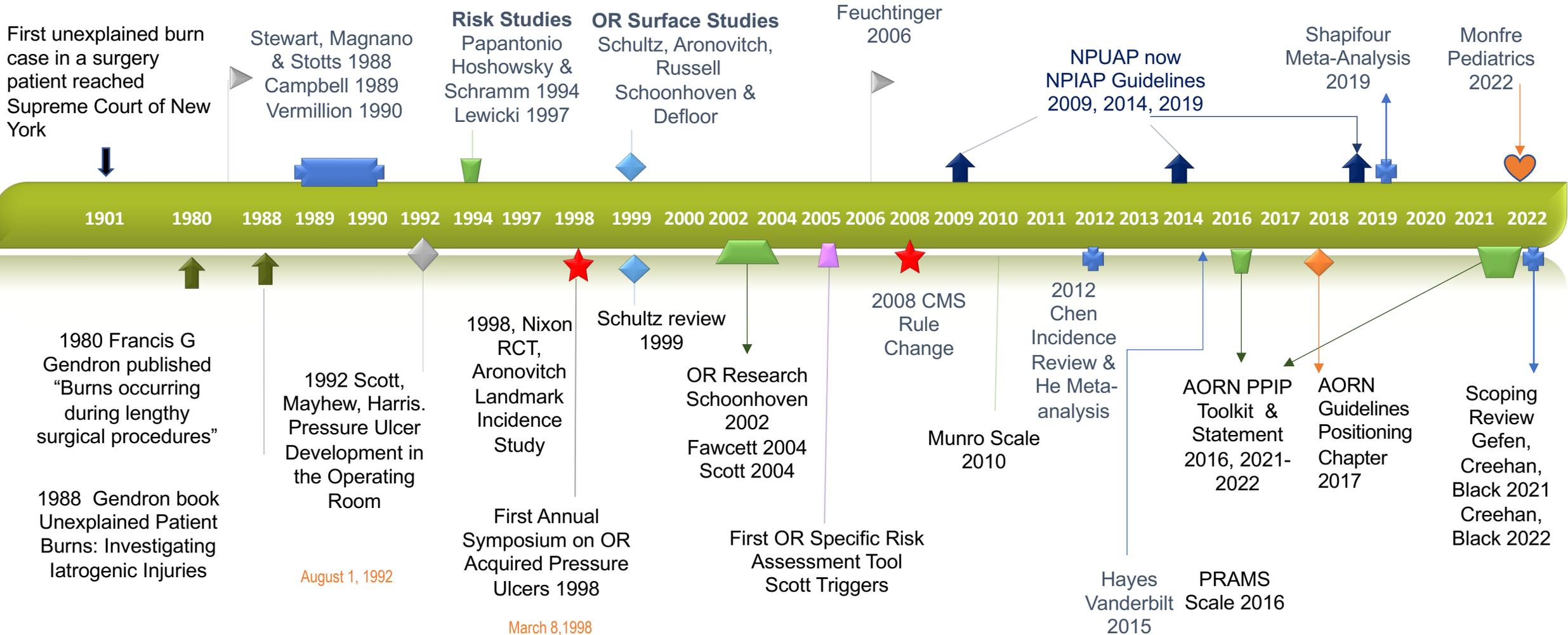
- Identify trends in risk assessment, prevention, incidence, cost, and litigation for perioperative hospital acquired pressure injury (HAPI).
- Explore the science of biomechanics and the impact on tissue deformation in surgical positioning and use of medical devices.
- Illustrate an innovative strategy to reduce harm from pressure injury in the surgical population

The Situation

Susan M. Scott, MSN, RN, WOC Nurse



History of Perioperative Pressure Injury 1-32



Current State Perioperative HAPI 22-28,32-39

- Incidence
 - Range 4.5%-64.1%
 - Mean 18.96%
- Cost
 - 26.8 Billion
- Litigation
 - \$250,000
- Risk Assessment tools
 - Braden
 - Scott Triggers
 - Munro Scale
 - PRAMS
 - Braden QD

Barriers 40-44

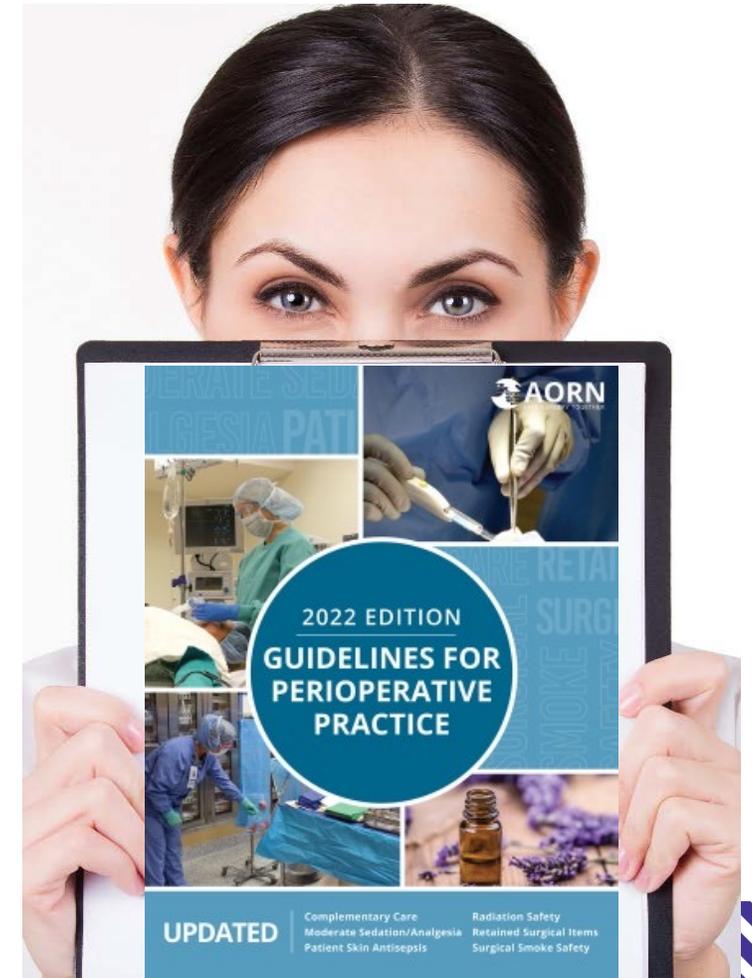
- Patient factors
- Budget constraints
- Lack of standardization
- Outdated equipment
- Siloed communication
- Out-patient surgery follow-up
- Competing priorities



Scott, S. Perioperative Pressure Injuries: Protocols and Evidence-Based Programs for Reducing Risk. *PSQH*, 2016;13(4), 20-28.

Desired State 28,31-32, 41-44

- Gap Assessment
- Quality Improvement/RCA2
- Risk & Skin Assessments
- OR Skin Bundles
- Staff Education & Competency
- Equipment Standardization
- Interprofessional Collaboration



The Science

Amit Gefen, PhD





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Cellular deformation and how this triggers the cascade toward cell death and pressure injury formation in the OR setting

Professor Amit Gefen, PhD

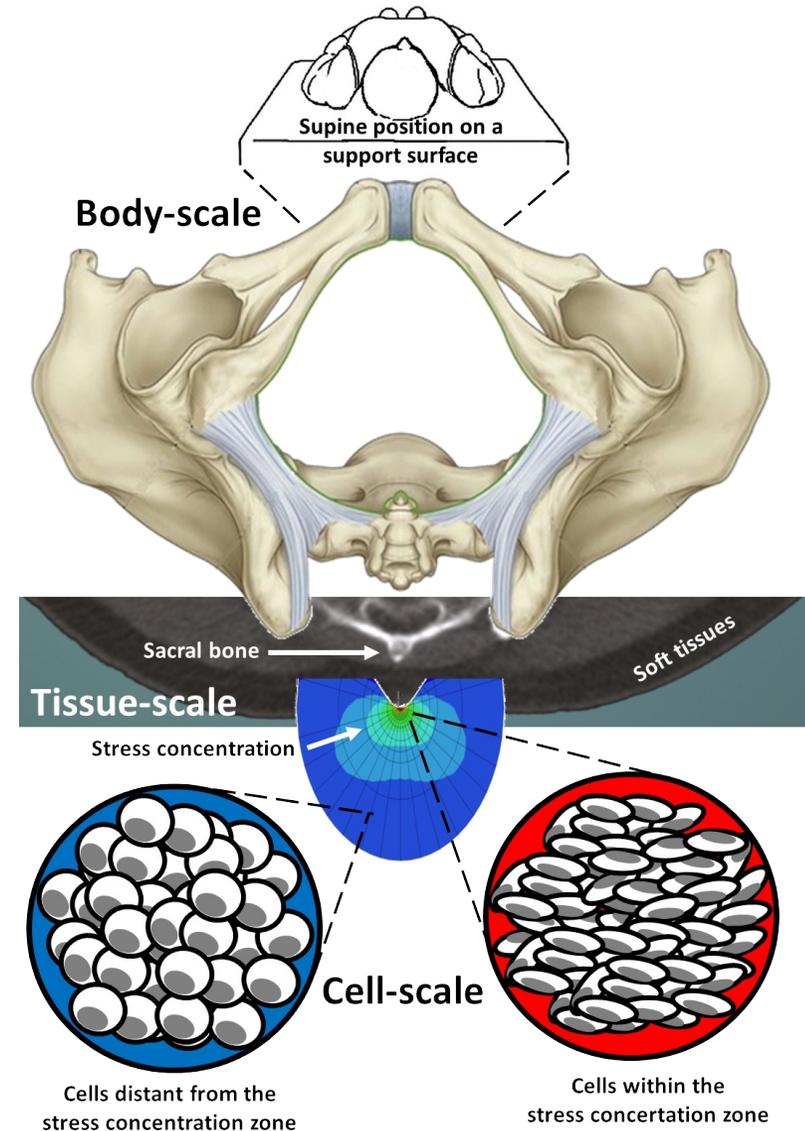
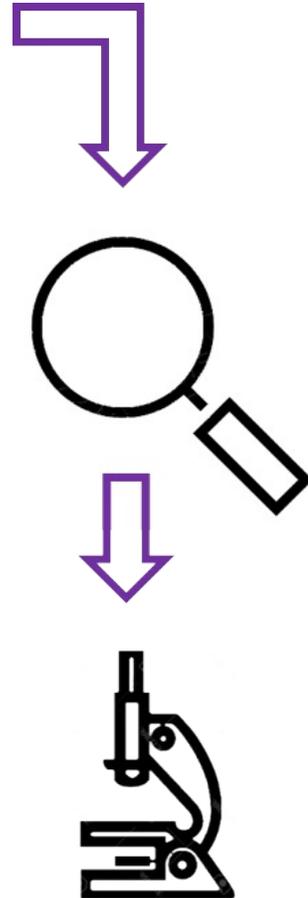
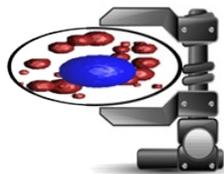
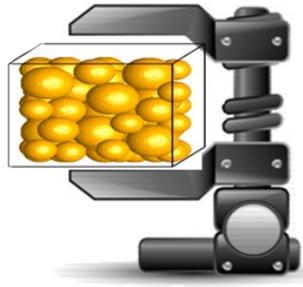
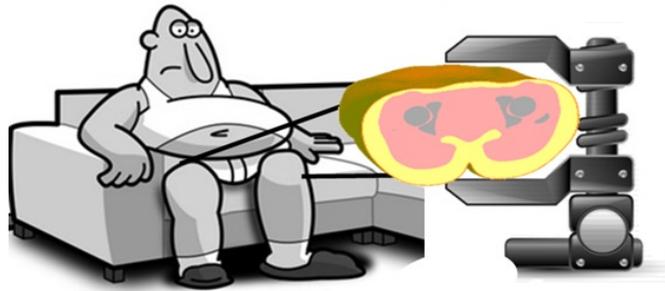
Department of Biomedical Engineering,
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E-mail: gefen@tauex.tau.ac.il

ADVOCACY Take
a Stand

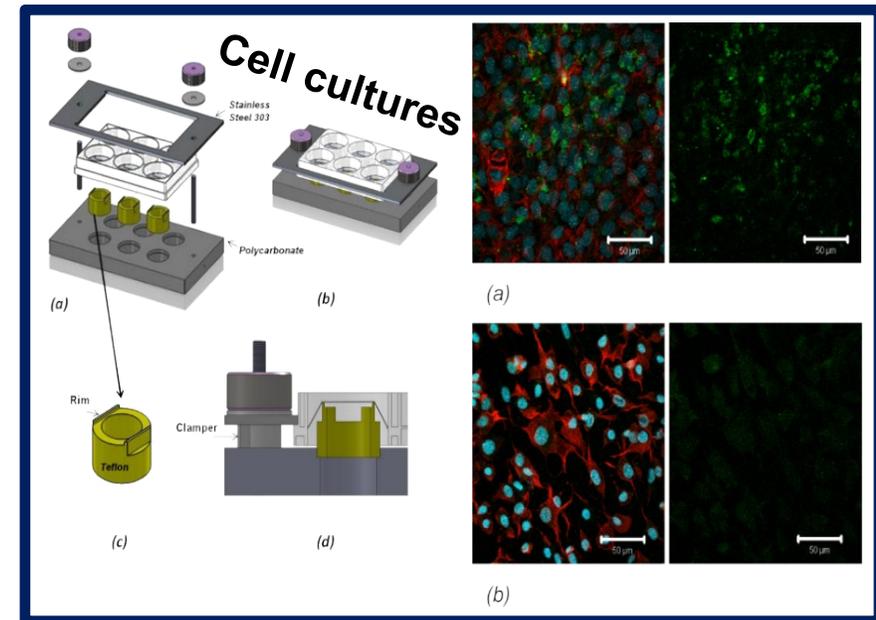
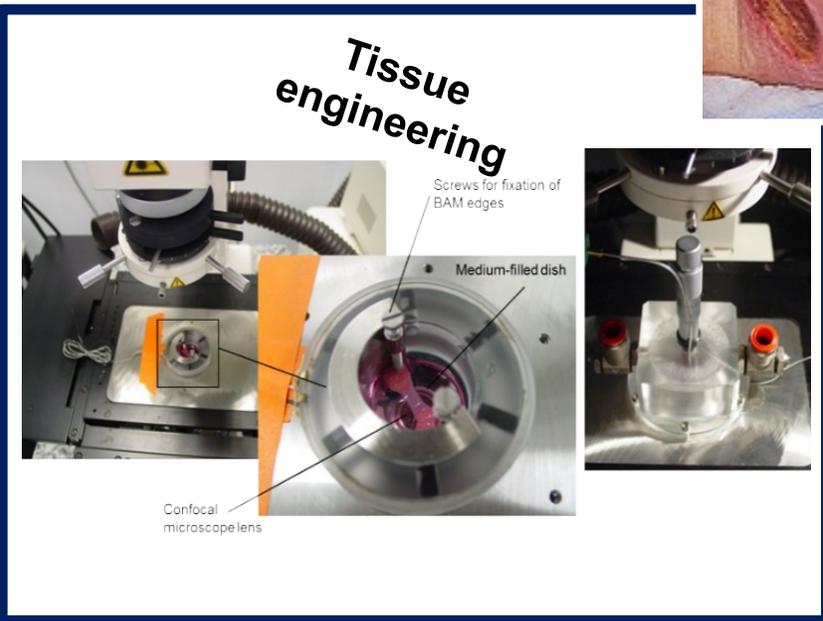
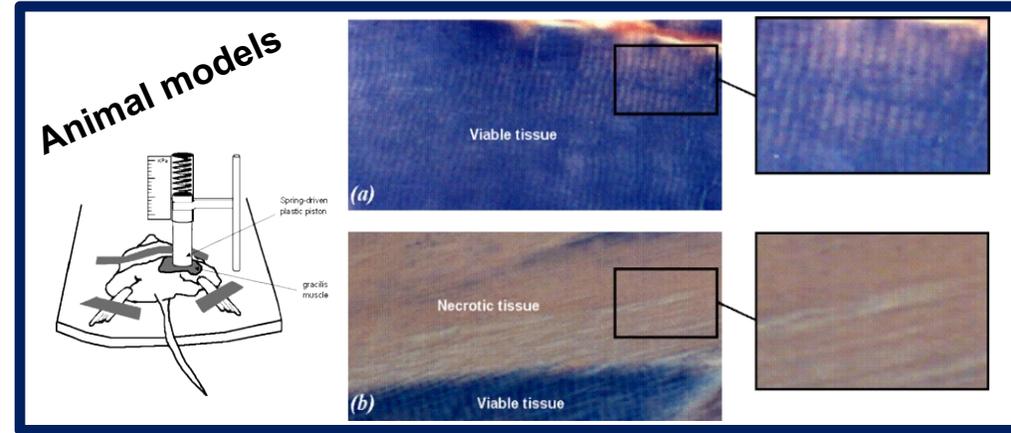
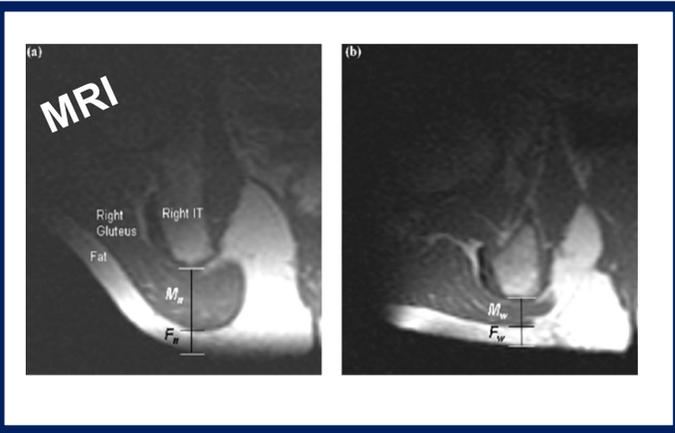


Our current understanding of pressure ulcer/injury etiology

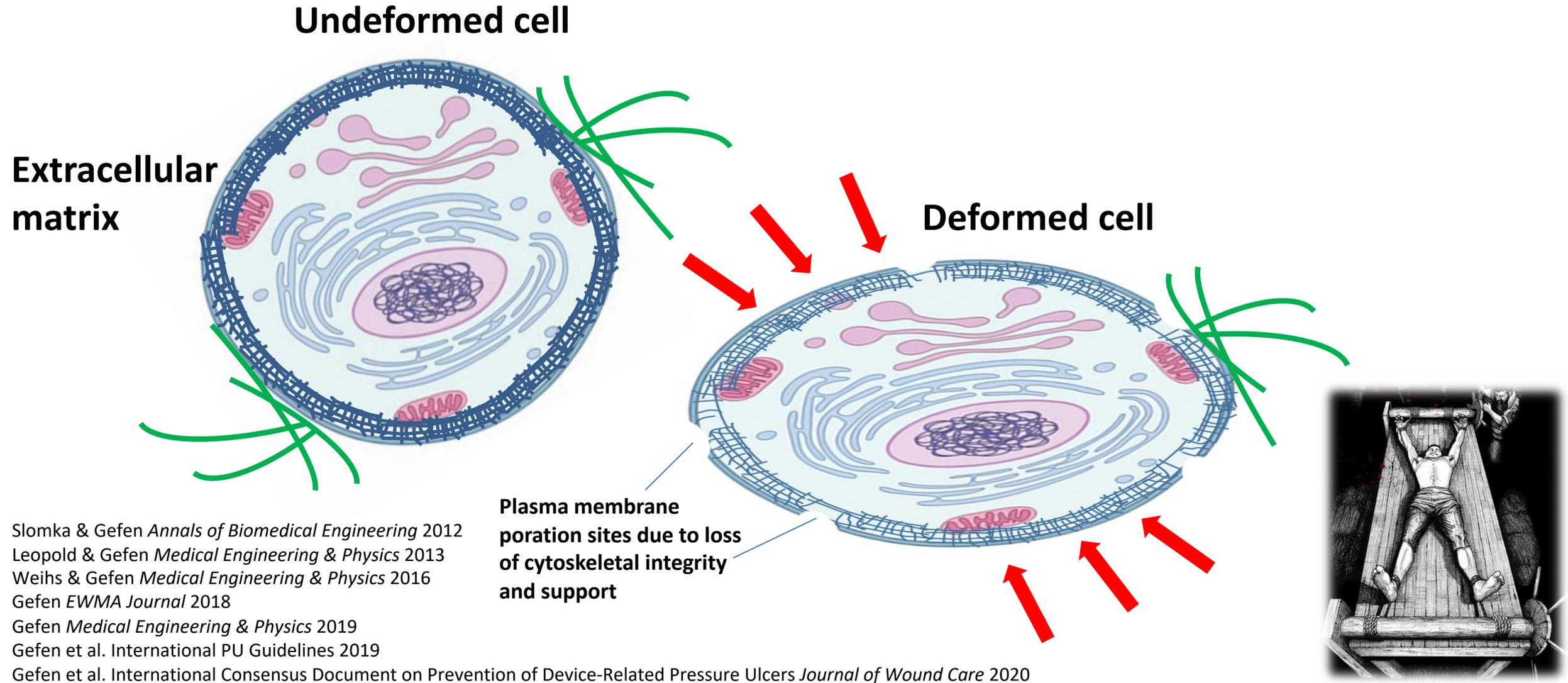


Shoham et al. *Biomechanics and Modeling in Mechanobiology* 2016
Gefen & Soppit *Wound Practice and Research* 2020

Exposure to sustained deformations kills cells and tissues fast, much faster than ischaemia



What happens to cells at a forming pressure ulcer/injury site?



Current understanding of pressure ulcer/injury etiology (Cont.)

Conventional thinking

Ischemia

Impaired perfusion



Reduce oxygen



Change in

Accumulation of waste products



Decrease in pH



Cell death

Several hours

Current understanding

Deformation

Deformation of cells



Disruption of the cytoskeleton



10s of minutes

Cell permeability increases

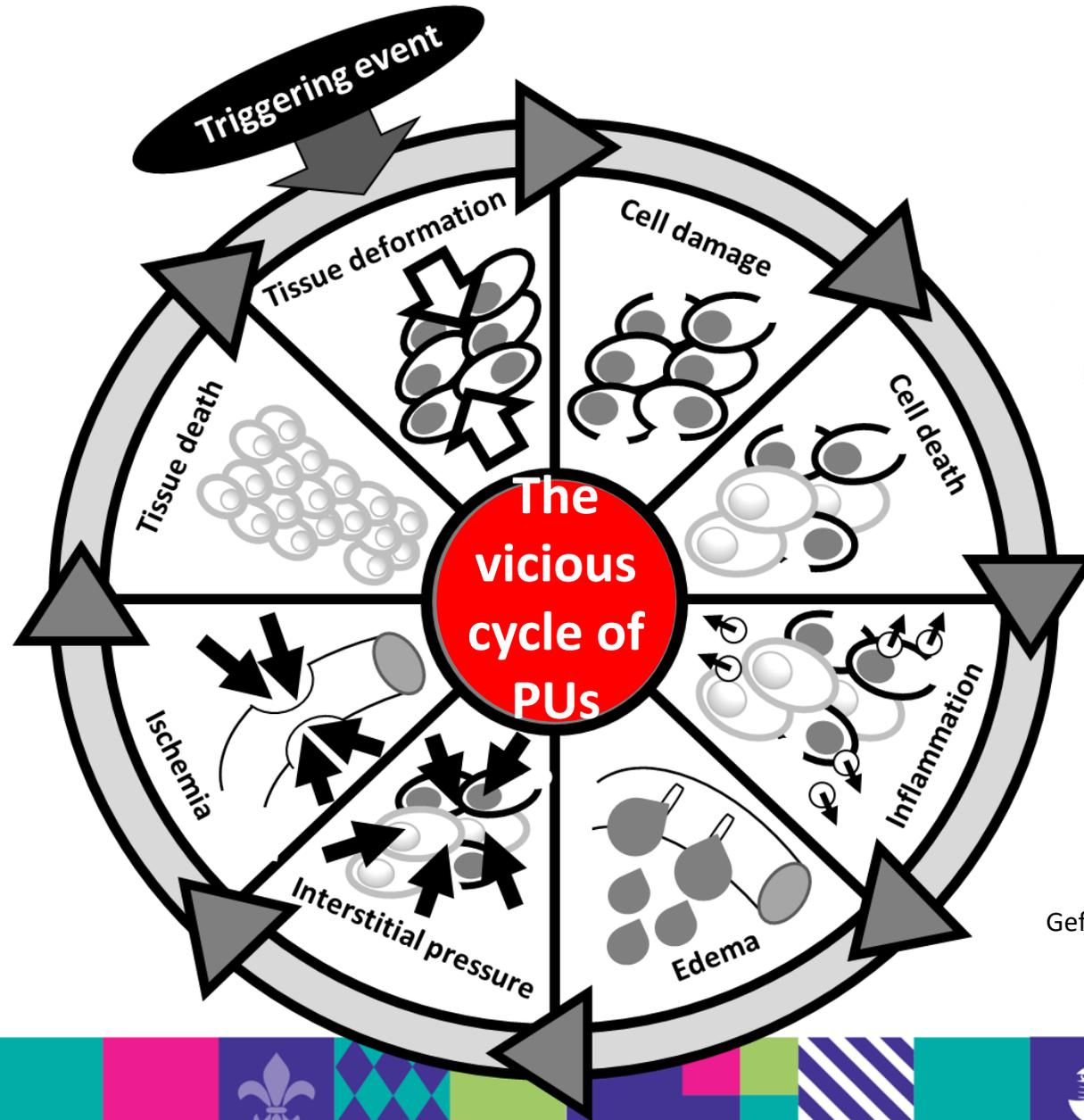


Loss of homeostasis



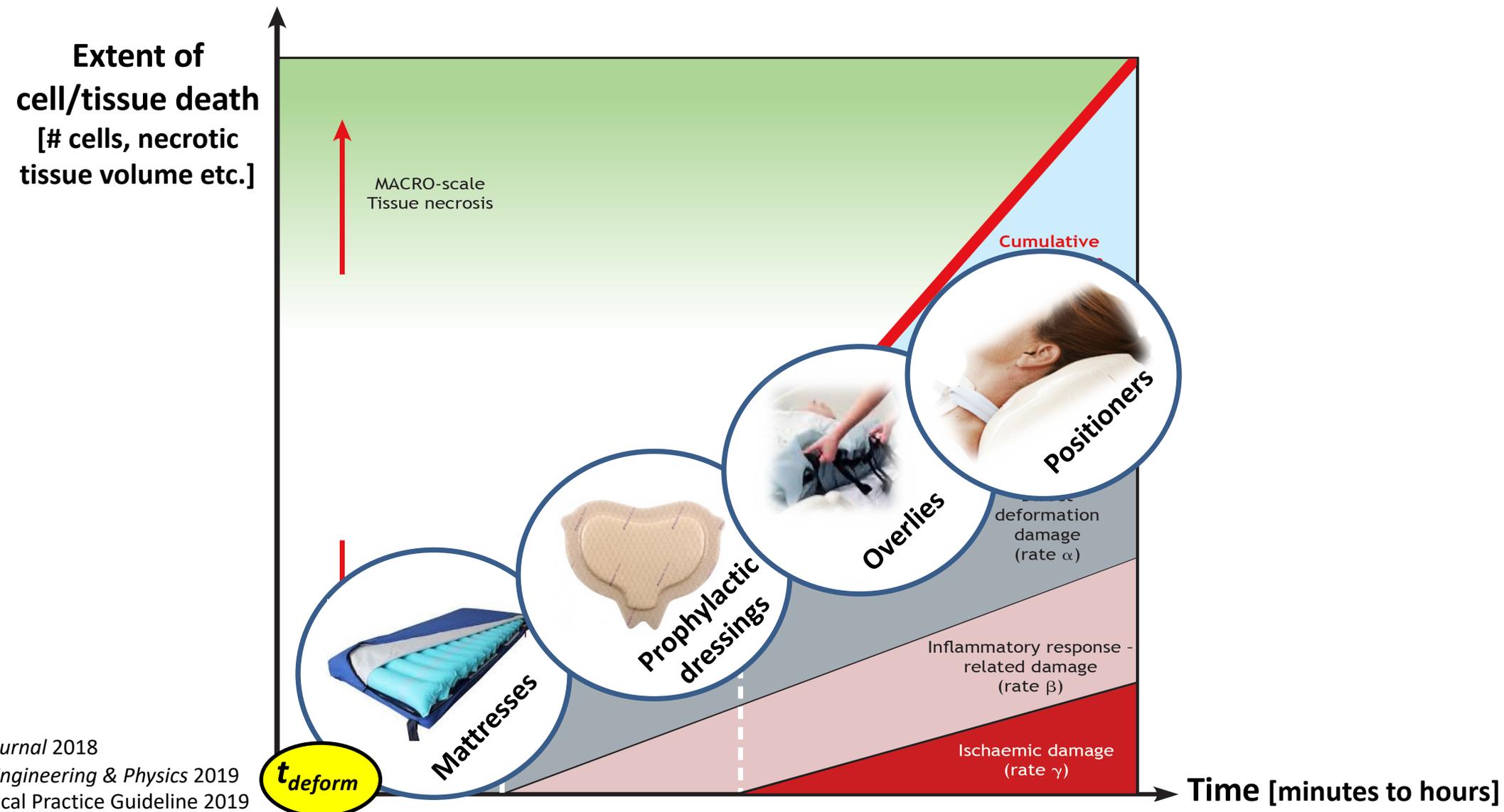
Cell death

The vicious cycle of pressure ulcer/injury formation & progression



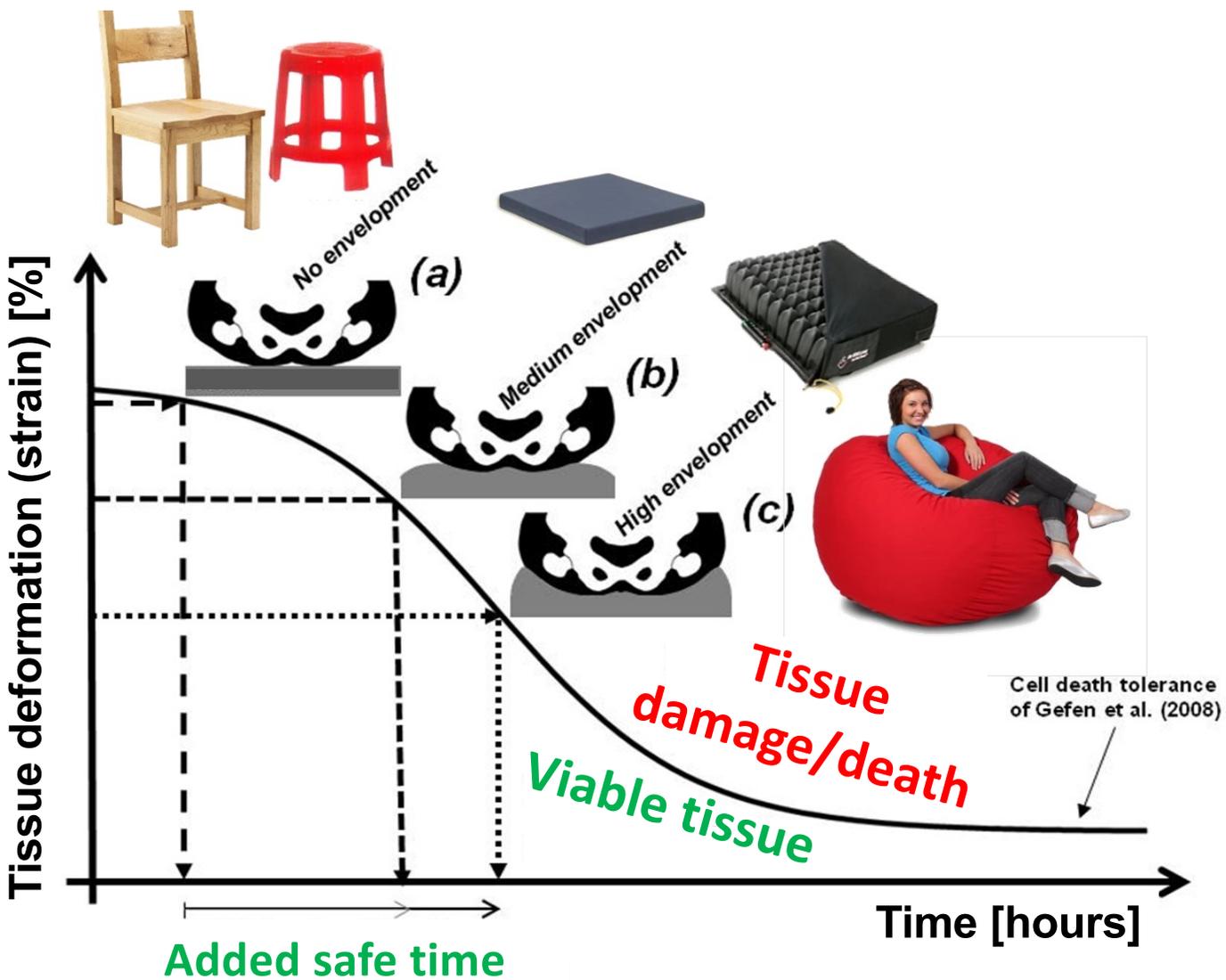
Slomka & Gefen *Annals of Biomedical Engineering* 2012
Leopold & Gefen *Medical Engineering & Physics* 2013
Weihs & Gefen *Medical Engineering & Physics* 2016
Gefen *EWMA Journal* 2018
Gefen et al. *Clinical Practice Guideline* 2019
Gefen & Ousey, Update to International Consensus Document
on DRPUs *Journal of Wound Care* 2020

What makes a technology effective in primary PU/PI prevention?



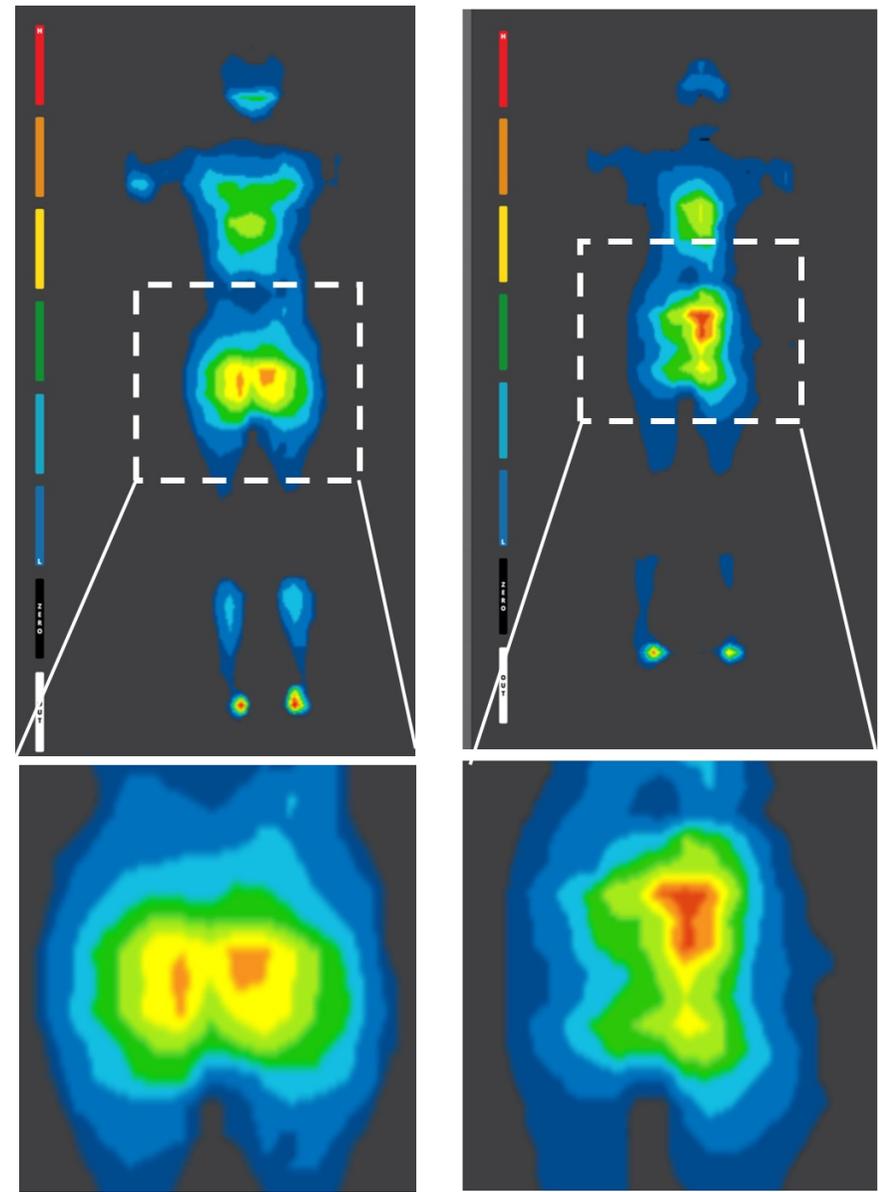
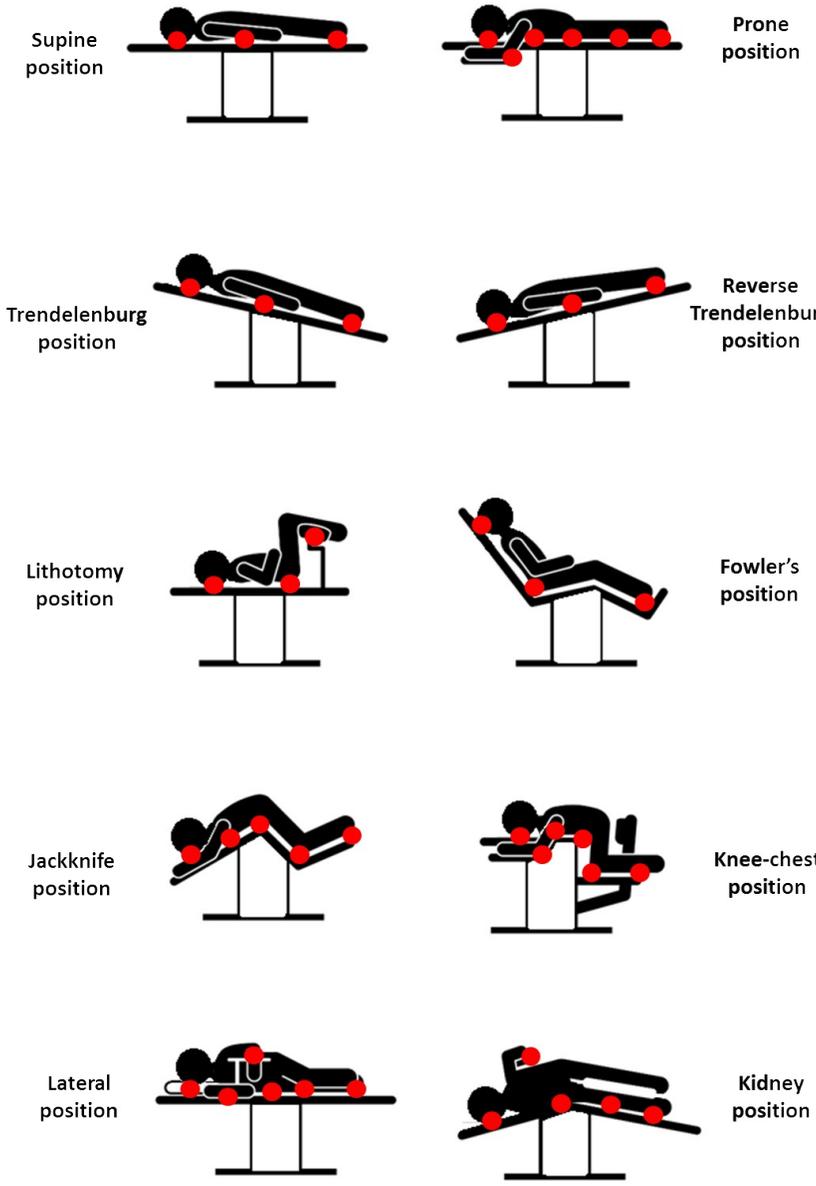
Gefen EWMA Journal 2018
Gefen Medical Engineering & Physics 2019
Gefen et al. Clinical Practice Guideline 2019

How do conventional support surface technologies mitigate deformation?

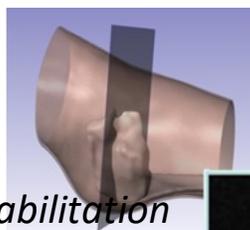


Linder-Ganz et al. *Journal of Biomechanics* 2006
Gefen et al. *Journal of Biomechanics* 2008
Shabshin, Gefen et al. *Journal of Rehabilitation Research & Development* 2010

The uniqueness of the operating room (OR) setting



Tissue deformations in the OR: The example of the heels



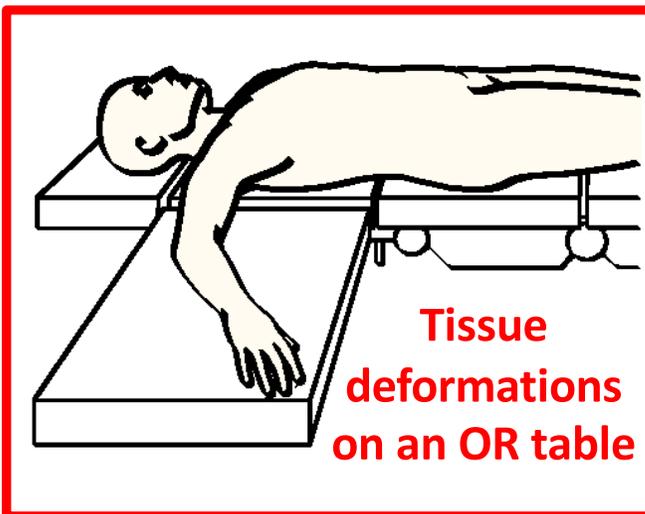
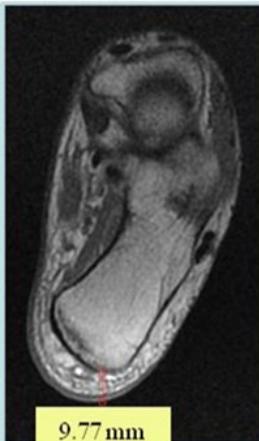
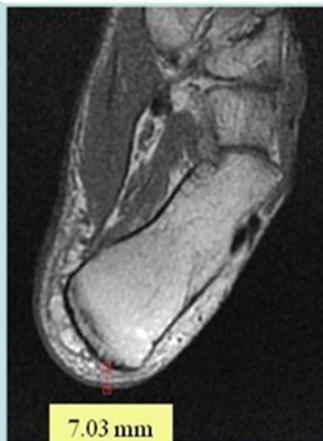
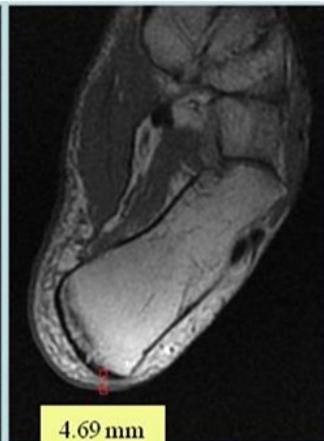
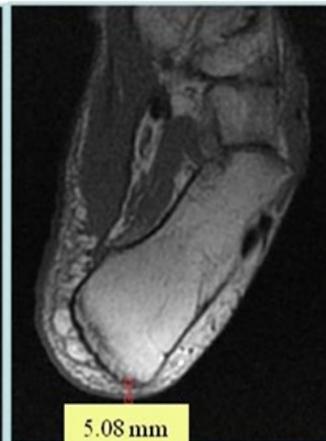
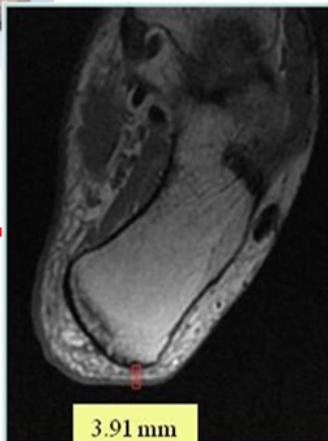
Rigid support

Heel support #1

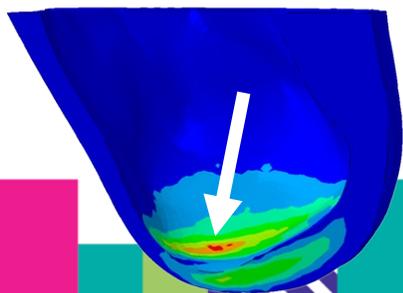
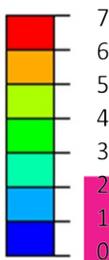
Heel support #2

Heel support #3

Heel suspended



von Mises stress [kPa]



Tissue deformation

60%

50%

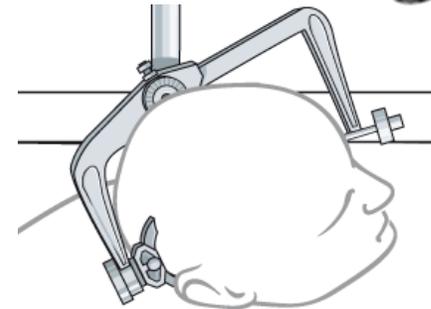
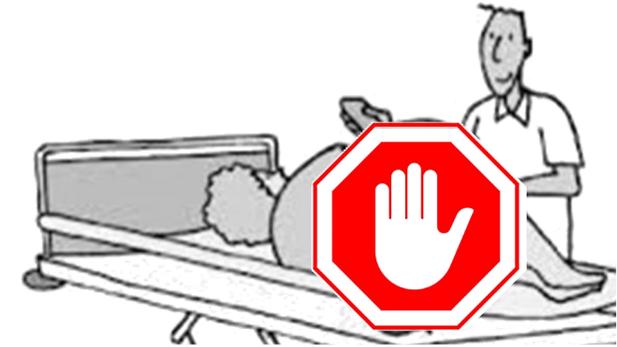
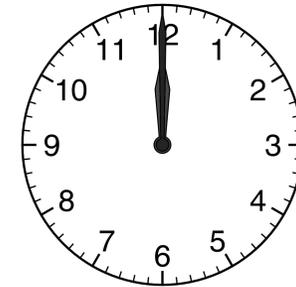
30%

Discussion: A biomechanical perspective on the uniqueness of the OR setting



In addition to the intense tissue deformations, the OR setting imposes serious constraints to tissue protection:

- Long (3-4 hours) immobilization periods due to anesthesia (& over 6 hours for neurosurgery)
- Whole-body repositioning is not feasible (patients are anesthetized & ventilated)
- Precision procedures (e.g. neurological, cardiac, vascular, tumor removal) require body stability



Gefen Ostomy Wound Management 2008, Gefen Wounds International 2020 & Gefen, Journal of Elasticity 2021

The Solution

Terry Emerson, DNP, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC



Innovation

- Why?
 - Patients undergoing surgical procedures are at risk for pressure injury
 - **Comorbidities**
 - **Nutritional status**
 - **Age**
 - **Length of surgery**
 - **ASA**
 - **BMI**
 - **Position and positioning aids**
 - .Regulatory Requirements/Reimbursement

Innovation

- How?
 - Communication and Collaboration
 - 5 M Fishbone
 - Education
 - Practice Change

Innovation

- Interventions
 - Pressure Injury Prevention Risk Assessment Tool
 - Positioning Templates
 - Electronic Medical Record Support

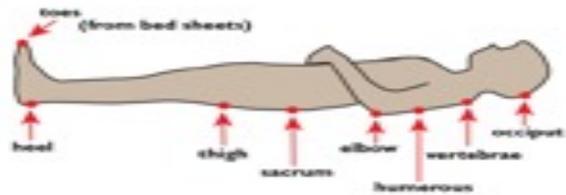
Innovation

PRESSURE INJURY PREVENTION

- PREOP/INTRAOP/POST OP SKIN ASSESSMENT AND DOCUMENTATION
- RN TO RN HAND OFF PRE AND POST OP
- RISK ASSESSMENT
- APPROPRIATE TRANSFER DEVICES AND SUPPORT (MIN 4)
- PINDS DOCUMENTATION
- GEL POSITIONING AIDS TO PAD VULNERABLE ANATOMY
- UPON TRANSFERRING THE PATIENT TO/FROM OR TABLE, INITIATE "SAFE SKIN SCAN"
 - ASSESS SKIN INTEGRITY
 - DOCUMENT
 - PLACE HERO

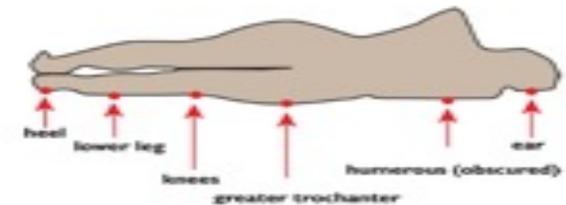
Supine

- Occiput
- Scapulae
- Arms
- Elbows
- Thoracic vertebrae
- Lumbar area
- Sacrum/coccyx
- Heels



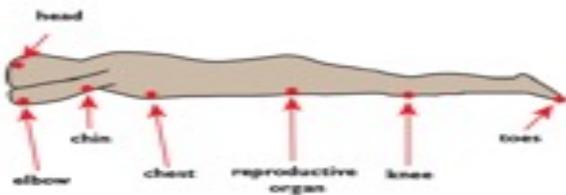
Lateral / Park Bench

- Dependent side of face and ear
- Dependent shoulder
- Arms
- Dependent axilla
- Dependent hip
- Legs
- Dependent knee
- Ankles
- Feet



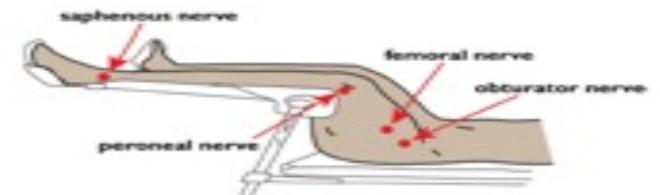
Prone

- Forehead, eyes, ears, chin
- Anterior shoulders
- Breasts
- Iliac crest
- Genitalia
- Knees
- Shins
- Dorsum of feet
- Toes



Lithotomy

- Occiput
- Scapulae
- Arms
- Elbows
- Thoracic vertebrae
- Lumbar area
- Sacrum/coccyx
- Heels
- Nerve injury



Innovation

Intra-op (OR)

Events ▾ Notify Fail

PRE-INCISION

- Hand-Off
- Summary Report
- General Info
- Latex Screening
- Allergies
- Device Select
- Staff
- Delays
- Proc Not Perform
- Counts
- Pre-op Skin
- Scott Triggers**
- Site Prep
- Positioning
- Lines/Drains
- Timeout
- Pre-op Passport
- Prev. Implants

Scott Triggers

Scott Triggers Risk Assessment

Age 62 or Older (Current Age: 69)

Albumin Level <3.5 g/L (Current Albumin Level: 3.2)

BMI <19 or >40 (Current BMI: 46.37)

ASA Score 3 or Greater (Current ASA: 0)

Surgery Time Over 3 Hours or 180 Minutes (Scheduled Surgery Time: 185 Minutes)

Patient is at High Risk for Developing a Pressure Ulcer

Choose Patient's Position →

Innovation

Pre-op Skin Condition Complete ↑↓

+ New skin condition □ **JHH Safe Skin Assessment Performed**

New item

Site

Grounding Operative Overall Positioning Tourniquet Warming

Condition

Warm, Dry, Intact	Abrasion	Ashen Grey	Blisters	Blotchy	Bruising	Burns
Cool	Cracked	Cyanotic	Diaphoretic	Dry	Dusky	Eschar Tissue
Flushed	Fragile	Hives	Hot	Intact	Jaundice	Laceration
Reddened with blanching	Reddened without blanching	OTHER (SEE COMMENTS)				

See all values

Comments

Accept Cancel

Previous Next

Post-op Skin Condition Complete ↑↓

+ New skin condition □ **JHH Safe Skin Assessment Performed**

New item

Site

Grounding Operative Overall Positioning Warming

Condition

Warm, Dry, Intact	Warm and Dry with Surgical Incision	Abrasion	Ashen Grey	Blisters
Blotchy	Bruising	Burns	Cool	Cracked
Cyanotic	Diaphoretic	Dry	Dusky	Eschar Tissue
Flushed	Fragile	Hives	Hot	Intact
Jaundice	Laceration	Reddened with blanching	Reddened without blanching	OTHER (SEE COMMENTS)

See all values

Comments

Accept Cancel

Previous Next

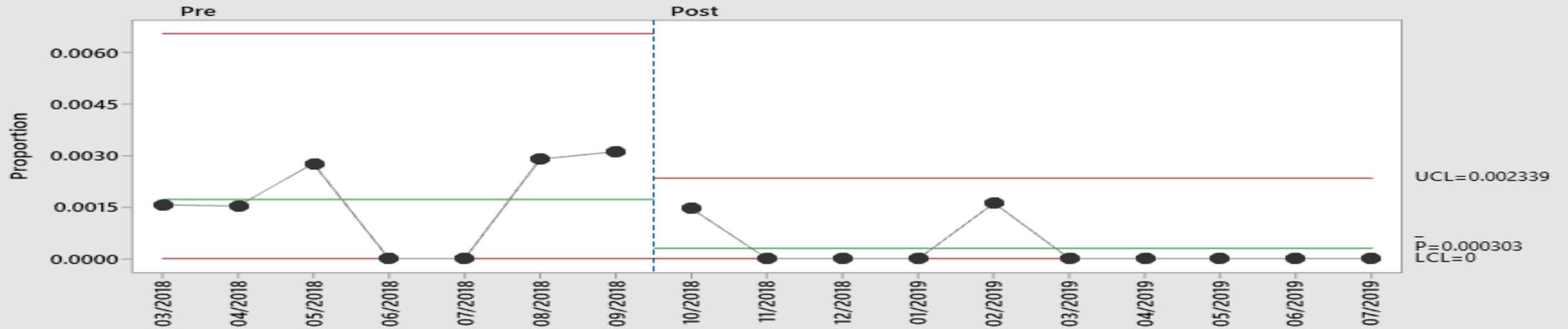
Results

SPC Chart of OR related Pressure Injuries



Comments

- The % of pressure injuries was reduced significantly ($p < 0.05$) from Pre of 0.17% to 0.03% Post implementation.
- The variation was also reduced from Pre to Post as seen in the tighter control limits Post phase.



Project Phase	Number of Months	Average Cases per Month	Total Cases	Number of Pressure Injuries	% Defective	PPM (DPMO)
Pre	7	664	4651	8	0.17	1720
Post	10	659	6590	2	0.03	303

Summary



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Questions

