

***AORN** LIVE EVENTS

REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Under Pressure: Your Role in Reducing Positioning & Pressure Injury Risk

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MSN, RN, WOC Nurse
CEO Scott Triggers PLLC

Objectives

- Identify trends in risk assessment, prevention, incidence, cost, and litigation for Perioperative Pressure Injuries (PPI).
- Illustrate components of a Perioperative Pressure Injury Prevention Program (PPIPP) to reduce risk of PI in the surgical and procedure areas.
- Describe the commonly used surgical positions, medical devices and associated pressure points, with the impact on tissue deformation as a risk factors for positioning injuries.

Surgery is a high-risk environment for PI

"Surgery is one of the few times a normal, healthy individual is placed at risk for pressure sores." 1

"The OR is known to be one of the most high-risk environments" ²



^{1.} Gendron, F. "Burns" occurring during lengthy surgical procedures. *Journal of Clinical Engineering*. 1980;5:19–26.

Guideline for prevention of perioperative pressure injury. In: *Guidelines for Perioperative Practice*. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023:751-776.

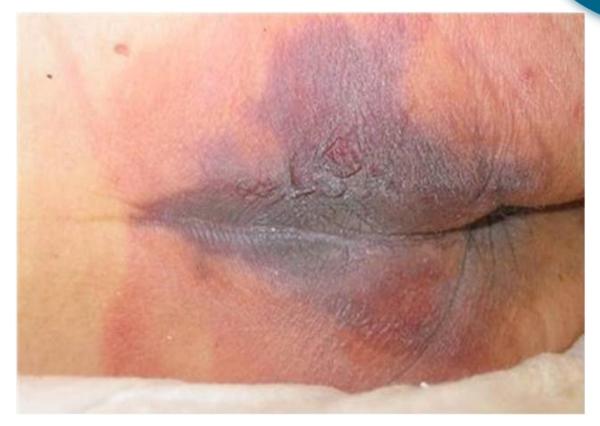
Pressure injury definition (NPIAP, 2019)³

- A pressure injury is localized damage to the skin and underlying soft tissue usually over a bony prominence or related to a medical or other device.
- The injury can present as intact skin or an open ulcer and may be painful. The injury occurs as a result of intense and/or prolonged pressure or pressure in combination with shear.
- The tolerance of soft tissue for pressure and shear may also be affected by microclimate, nutrition, perfusion, co-morbidities and condition of the soft tissue.



Problem: Perioperative pressure injury (PPI)

- PPI is associated with the surgical position or medical device.⁴
- A PPI is detected through visual skin assessment (VSA) within 1-4 days^{5,6}
- Deep tissue injury may take up to 7 days^{5,6}
- Pain is a common complaint³



CABG 48 hrs post-op

^{3.} Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers/Injuries: Clinical Practice Guideline. The International Guideline. 3rd ed. European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (NPIAP), and Pan Pacific Pressure Injury Alliance; 2019.

^{4.} Scott S. Progress and Challenges in Perioperative Pressure Ulcer Prevention. J Wound Ostomy Continence Nurs. 2015;42 (5):480-485

^{5.} Gefen A, Creehan S, Black J. Critical biomechanical and clinical insights concerning tissue protection when positioning patients in the operating room: A scoping review. Int Wound J. 2020;1-19.

^{6.} Hayes RM, Spear ME, Lee SI, et al. Relationship between time in the operating room and incident pressure ulcers: a matched case-control study. Am J Med Qual. 2015;30(6):591-597.

Situation & strategy

Prevention Programs

Price

People

Process

Product

^{2.} Guideline for prevention of perioperative pressure injury. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023

^{7.} AORN Position Statement on Prevention of Perioperative Pressure Injury. AORN J, 2022;115(5):458-461.

^{8.} Scott, S. Perioperative Pressure Injuries: Protocols and Evidence-Based Programs for Reducing Risk. PSQH, 2016;13(4), 20-28.

AORN position statement on prevention of perioperative pressure injury⁷

- Health care organizations should define in a policy and procedure a method to determine how perioperative-acquired pressure injuries (PPI) are identified.
- Consult with WOC nurse with suspected PI
- Monitor monthly incidence of PPI and use as a quality indicator
- Report PPI incidence rates in standard method
- Use RCA to investigate reported and confirmed PPI
- Report PPI rates and RCA to perioperative staff
- Review RCAs of PPI for trends and to create QI initiatives



Incidence & prevalence

- Surgeries in US⁹
 - 7.3 Million Inpatient
 - 9.9 Million Ambulatory
 - 57.1%
 Medicare/Medicaid
- Exact incidence of Perioperative PI is unknown¹⁰

- NDNQI¹¹
- Incidence & Prevalence
 - Chen Range 0.3%-57%
 mean 15%¹²
 - Shafipour almost 19%¹³
 - Surgery >3 hrs 8.5%⁵

^{5.} Gefen A, Creehan S, Black J. Critical biomechanical and clinical insights concerning tissue protection when positioning patients in the operating room: A scoping review. *Int Wound J.* 2020;1-19. 9. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Surgeries in Hospital-Based Ambulatory Surgery and Hospital Inpatient Settings (H-CUP statistical brief #223). Washington DC: AHRQ; 2014.

^{10.} Creehan S, Black J. Defining Practices to Avoid Hospital-Acquired Pressure Injuries in the Operating Room. *J Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurs*. 2022;49(1):89-96. doi: 10.1097/WON.0000000000000000835.

11. NDNQI The National Data Base of Nursing Quality Indicators (NDNQI) Guidelines for Data Collection and Submission on Pressure Injury Indicator. 2021. Accessed July 24, 2022 at Microsoft Word - Guidelines - Pressure Injury 2021128 (nursing quality.org)

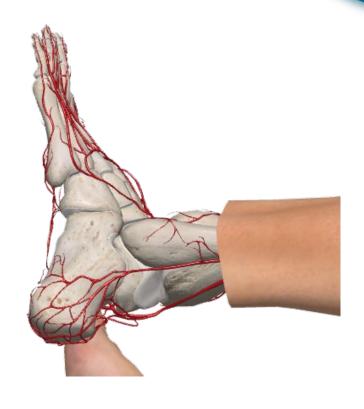
^{12.} Chen H, Chen X, Wu J. The incidence of pressure ulcers in surgical patients of the last 5 years: a systematic review. Wounds. 2012;24(9):234–241.

^{13.} Shafipour V, Ramezanpour E, Gorji, MAH, Moosadadeh M, Prevalence of postoperative pressure ulcer: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Electronic Physician* Nov 2016;8(11):3170-3176. http://www.ephysician.ir/2016/3170.pdf Accessed March 23, 2019.

OR Pressure injury locations²







Occiput

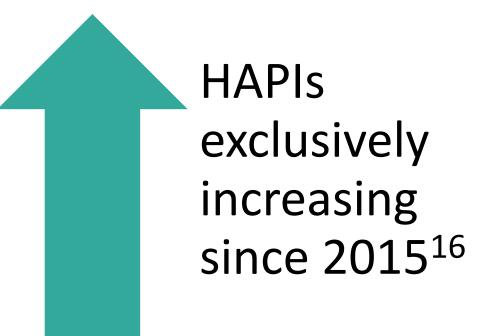
Sacral Buttocks

Heels

^{2.} Guideline for prevention of perioperative pressure injury. In: *Guidelines for Perioperative Practice*. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023:751-776 Images courtesy of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Challenges: cost & quality

- Cost¹⁴
 - 26.8 billion
 - 59% non-reimbursed by CMS
- Hospital acquired conditions^{15,16}
 - PSI-90 48,700 (2016)
 - \$ 2 Billion
- Litigation¹⁷
 - \$250,000

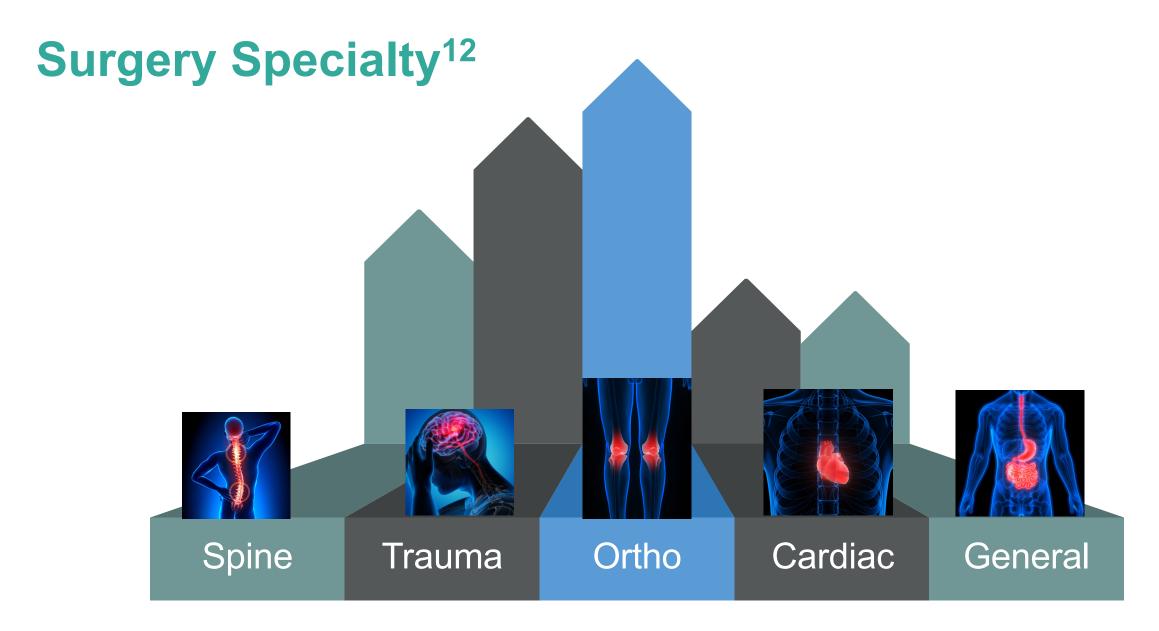


^{14.} Padula WV, Delarmente BA. The national cost of hospital-acquired pressure injuries in the United States. Int Wound J. 2019:1–7.

^{15.} IBM Watson Health, Research Brief Hospital-Acquired Conditions lead to avoidable cost and excess deaths (2018). Available at https://www.ibm.com/downloads/cas/X97QXLER Retrieved January 31, 2023.

^{16.} Padula WV, Black JM, Davidson PM, Kang SY, Pronovost PJ. Adverse Effects of the Medicare PSI-90 Hospital Penalty System on Revenue-Neutral Hospital-Acquired Conditions. *J Patient Saf.* 2020 Jun;16(2):e97-e102. doi: 10.1097/PTS.00000000000000517. PMID: 30110019.

^{17.} Bennett R, O'Sullivan J, DeVito E, Remsburg R. The increasing medical malpractice risk related to pressure ulcers in the United States. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2000;48(1):73-81.



Strategy

Prevention Programs

Price

People

Process

Product

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^{7.} AORN Position Statement on Prevention of Perioperative Pressure Injury. AORN J, 2022;115(5):458-461.

^{8.} Scott, S. Perioperative Pressure Injuries: Protocols and Evidence-Based Programs for Reducing Risk. PSQH, 2016;13(4), 20-28

People : Interprofessional Team

- Leadership²
- Team Collaboration^{2,3}
 - OR Staff, WOC nurse, QI
 - Anesthesia & Surgery
 - PACU
- Knowledge, Skills, Attitude (KSA)¹⁸⁻²²
 - Competency
 - Education enduring
- Handoff Communication



^{7.} AORN Position Statement on Prevention of Perioperative Pressure Injury. AORN J, 2022;115(5):458-461.



^{19.} Stanton C. Guideline for Prevention of Perioperative Pressure Injury. AORN J. 2022;115(5):8-10.

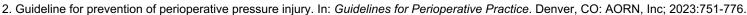
^{20.} Cebeci F, Senol Celik S, Knowledge and practices of operating room nurses in the prevention of pressure injury. *Journal of Tissue Viability*. 2022;31(1):38-45 Available at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0965206X2100092.

^{21.} Khong BPC, Goh BC, Phang LY, David T. Operating room nurses' self-reported knowledge and attitude on perioperative pressure injury. *Int Wound J.* 2020;17:455-465.

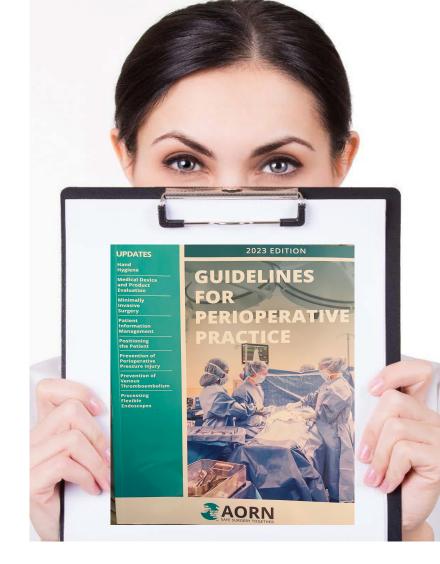
^{22.} Lupear SK, Overstreet M, Krau SD. Perioperative nurses' knowledge of indicators for pressure ulcer development in the surgical patient population. Nurse Clin N Am. 2015; 50:411-435.

Process: Standards of Care

- Strategic Plan^{2,23}
- Policy and Procedure²
- Risk Assessment^{2,7,8}
- Skin Bundles^{2,24}
- Standardize equipment & devices²⁶
- QI work, RCA & Action^{7,8,25}
- Data management
- EHR Documentation



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^{23.} Scott SM. Creating a strategic plan for perioperative pressure ulcer prevention. AORN J. 2016;103(4):13-14.

^{24.} Scott S. Use of an OR skin bundle to prevent pressure injury. AORN J. 2017;106(4):18-19.

^{25.} Scott SM, Bennett J. Avoiding pressure injuries with root cause analysis and action. AORN J. 2018:108(5):15-16.

^{26.} Scott Triggers Gap Assessment Template in AORN Prevention of Perioperative Pressure Injury Tool Kit. Available at https://scotttriggers.com/resources

Perioperative Plan of Care







Pre-op

Intra-op

Post-op

^{2.} Guideline for prevention of perioperative pressure injury. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023;751-776.

^{33.} Guideline for positioning the patient. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023:701-750.

^{34.} Guideline for safe patient handling and movement. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023;895-944.

Risk Factors

Intrinsic - Extrinsic

2. Guideline for prevention of perioperative pressure injury. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023:751-776.

Patient specific risk factors

- Type of Procedure ²
- Time on the table and immobility before surgery. ³
- Obesity ³³
- Pregnant ³³
- Disabilities ³³
- Critically III, Spinal Cord Injury (SCI), Palliative Care ³
- Critical devices catheters and drainage tubes ²
- Vascular perfusion and effects of inotropes/vasopressors ^{3,33}
- Anesthesia type and ASA score ^{2,3}

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^{3.} Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers/Injuries: Clinical Practice Guideline. The International Guideline. 3rd ed. European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (NPIAP), and Pan Pacific Pressure Injury Alliance; 2019.

^{33.} Guideline for positioning the patient. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023:701-750

AORN statement on risk assessment²

- "Preoperative PI risk assessments should
 - be visual,
 - be comprehensive, and
 - incorporate a structured risk assessment tool for use in perioperative patients that is specific to the age of the patient and that has been validated (e.g., Munro Scale, ELPO, PRAMS) or
 - demonstrated to be reliable (e.g., Scott Triggers)."



Preoperative risk assessment²

- "High Quality Evidence to support the use of a Risk Assessment Tool."
 - Munro Scale
 - ELPO
 - PRAMS
 - Scott Triggers
- "Risk assessment tools **DO NOT** replace the need comprehensive patient assessment"



Scott Triggers©

- OR specific risk assessment tool⁴
- Validity/Reliability studies:
- Park et al. 2019, N=400 Higher Sensitivity ST > Braden²⁸
- Emerson 2020, N=11,241 PI reduction. P=0.015^{29,30}
- Dai Yang & Wu 2021 N=447 "Good reliability, validity, and predictive validity."³¹



SCOTT TRIGGERS ASSESSMENT	Does it meet these qualifications?	If YES please place check here
Age	Age 62 or older	
Serum Albumin g/dL	Albumin level <	
or	3.5g/dl	
BMI	or	
	BMI <19 or > 40	
ASA score (circle)	ASA score 3 or	
1 2 3 4 5	greater	
Estimated surgery	Surgery time over	
time in	3 hours or 180	
hours/minutes	minutes	
Two or more	HIGH RISK	Implement
YESSES =	SURGICAL	OR skin
	PATIENT	bundle

^{4.} Scott S. Progress and Challenges in Perioperative Pressure Ulcer Prevention. *J Wound Ostomy Continence Nurs.* 2015;42 (5);480-485 28. Park SK, Park HA, Hwang H. Development and Comparison of Predictive Models for Pressure Injuries in Surgical Patients.

J Wound Ostomy Continence Nurs. 2019;46(4)291-297.

^{29.} Emerson T. Preventing pressure injuries in patients placed on a spinal table AORN J 2019;109(5):11-13.

^{30.} Emerson T, Myers KBJ, Fernandez, JC, Burkett S, Quion S, Bangud CC, and Shuman, MLH The Perioperative Journey: An Approach to Decreasing Hospital Acquired Pressure Injury Associated with the Intraoperative Phase of Care. Poster presented at the AORN Global Conference and Expo, 2020.

^{31.} Dai J, Yang Z, Wu C. The reliability and validity of the Scott Triggers for patients in China undergoing gastrointestinal surgery. Asian J Surg 2021;44(10):1343-1344.

Artificial intelligence & bundles 29,30



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: 4)

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

No Yes

No Yes

No Yes

No Yes

No Yes

Patient is at High Risk for Developing a Pressure Ulcer

Choose Patient's Position

Supine Prone Lateral/Parkbench

rkbench Lithotomy

Please see positioning instructions in the sidebar report titled JHH OR Scott Triggers Prone Position.

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Used with permission. Terry Emerson, MSN, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC, Nurse Manager, Neurosurgery/Orthopedic/Otology and Trauma/Transplant Services, Zayed/Bloomberg Operating Rooms. The Johns Hopkins Hospital. 29. Emerson T. Preventing pressure injuries in patients placed on a spinal table *AORN J* 2019;109(5):11-13.

30. Emerson T, Myers KBJ, Fernandez, JC, Burkett S, Quion S, Bangud CC, and Shuman, MLH The Perioperative Journey: An Approach to Decreasing Hospital Acquired Pressure Injury Associated with the Intraoperative Phase of Care. Poster presented at the AORN Global Conference and Expo, 2020.

Skin Assessment









Timing

Skill

Accuracy

Documentation

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- 3. Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers/Injuries: Clinical Practice Guideline. The International Guideline. 3rd ed. European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (NPIAP), and Pan Pacific Pressure Injury Alliance; 2019.
- 25. Scott SM, Bennett J. Avoiding pressure injuries with root cause analysis and action. AORN J. 2018:108(5):15-16.

OR skin bundle

- Pre-op risk and skin assessment^{2,7-8}
- Safe Patient Handling Movement³⁴
- Reduce, Relieve, or Redistribute Pressure
 - OR table support surfaces^{2,33}
 - Approved positioning devices^{2,33}
 - Padding bony prominence²
 - Heel offloading devices^{2,8,24}
 - Prophylactic dressings^{2,18,32}
- Communication and documentation²



^{2.} Guideline for prevention of perioperative pressure injury. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023:751-776.

^{7.} AORN Position Statement on Prevention of Perioperative Pressure Injury. AORN J, 2022;115(5):458-461.

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^{26.} Scott Triggers Gap Assessment Template in AORN Prevention of Perioperative Pressure Injury Tool Kit. Available at https://scotttriggers.com/resources

^{2.} Betts H, Scott D, Makic MBF, Using Evidence to Prevent Risk Associated with Perioperative Pressure Injuries. J Perianesth Nurs. 2022 Jun;37(3):308-311. doi: 10.1016/j.jopan.2021.08.010. Epub 2022 Mar 4. PMID: 35256249.

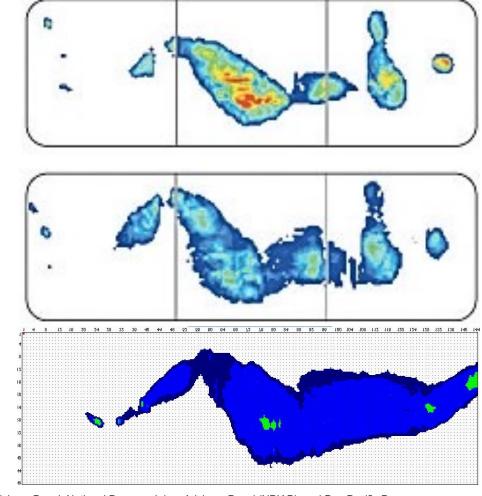
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^{34.} Guideline for safe patient handling and movement. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023;895-944

OR table pads check specifications

- Therapeutic weight capacity ²
- Thickness 3-4 in. ^{2,4}
- Stability for positions ²
- Radiolucency
- Research, standardized testing ⁴

Immersion & Envelopment ^{2,3}



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^{4.} Scott S. Progress and Challenges in Perioperative Pressure Ulcer Prevention. J Wound Ostomy Continence Nurs. 2015;42 (5);480-485





Intraoperative Interventions

Product selection, care, and maintenance

- Support surfaces ^{2,4}
- Positioning devices ^{2,33}
- Prophylactic dressings²
- SPHM devices ³⁴
- Stretchers ³⁴

- Selected by team ^{2,33}
- Evidence-based⁴
- Efficacy evaluations⁴
- Equipment standardization ⁴
- Availability²
- Maintenance ³³
- Budget ⁴

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^{34.} Guideline for safe patient handling and movement. In: *Guidelines for Perioperative Practice*. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023;895-944.

Safe patient handling movement (SPHM)³⁹

- Culture of Safety
- Formal systemized SPHM Program
- Ergonomic design principles
- Technology solutions
- Education, training, and staff competency
- Equipment, devices
- QI to evaluate SPHM program



AORN SPHM recommendations "supine"



- Weight < 157 lb.
 - Use lateral transfer device & 2-4 perioperative team members
- Weight > 157 lb.
 - Use assistive technology (eg, air-assisted transfer systems, a mechanical patient lift with a supine sling) to move the patient.
 - The number of team members is dependent of the type of technology used.

How many of our patients weigh >157 lbs.?

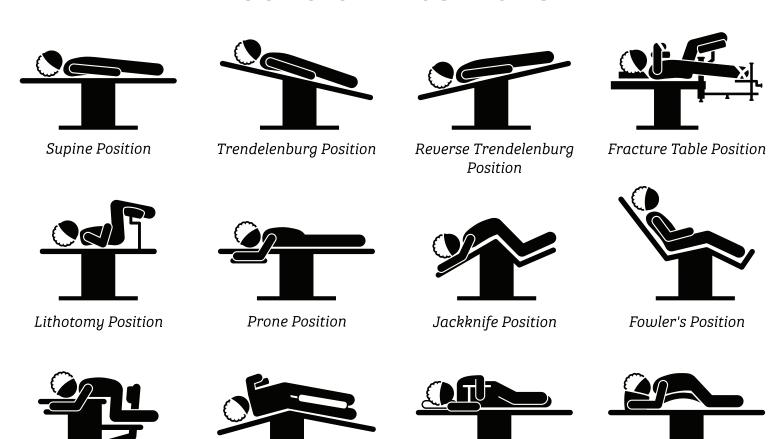
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Dos and Don'ts of Positioning ^{2,33}

DO NOT

Surgical Positions & Skin Bundles^{3,33}

SURGICAL POSITIONS



Lateral Position

Wilson Frame Position

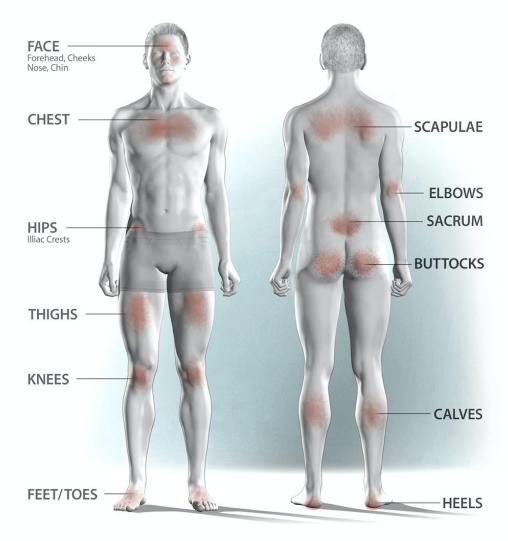
Kidney Position

Knee-Chest Position

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^{33.} Guideline for positioning the patient. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023:701-750.

High risk pressure points³



^{3.} Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers/Injuries: Clinical Practice Guideline. The International Guideline. 3rd ed. European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (NPIAP), and Pan Pacific Pressure Injury Alliance; 2019.

Supine position²

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



Prone position²

- Forehead, eyes, ears, and chin
- Chest/breasts, ports, implants
- Lower costal margins
- Iliac crest
- Genitalia
- Knees
- Shins
- Dorsum of the feet
- Toes





Prone position risks³³

- Pressure injury
- Increased intraocular pressure - Blindness
- Increased intra-abdominal pressure
- Cardiovascular changes
- Venous air embolism
- Respiratory changes
- Injury to the caregiver

- Do not use Wilson Frame
- Face, chin and forehead highest risk



Trendelenburg and reverse Trendelenburg position²

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



Trendelenburg position – risks³³

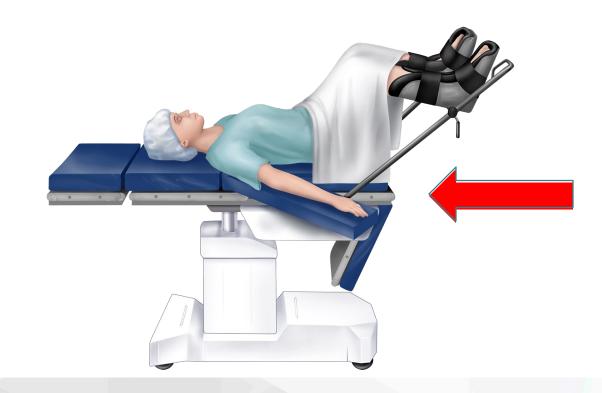
- Pressure Injury
- Brachial Plexus Nerve Injury
- Cephalad sliding "toward the head"
- Hemodynamic changes
- Altered pulmonary function
- Retinal detachment Blindness

- Patient Falls
 - Patient harm, brain damage, paralysis and death
 - Malpractice claims
 - CMS lost reimbursement
 - Reasonably preventable!



Lithotomy position²

- Occiput
- Shoulders
- Scapulae
- Elbows
- Arms
- Thoracic vertebrae
- Lumbar spine
- Buttocks
- Sacrum/coccyx
- Lateral aspect of thighs
- Heels



Lateral position²

- Side of face and ear
- Shoulder
- Arms
- Dependent axilla
- Dependent hip
- Dependent knee
- Ankles
- Feet



Sitting position pressure points²

- Occiput
- Scapulae
- Ischial tuberosities
- Back of knees
- Heels



High risk medical devices

- Anesthesia devices³³
- Face plates in prone position³³
- External fixators
- Urinary catheters & tubing^{2,3}
- Vacuum-packed positioning device²
- Peg Boards³
- Mayo stands on the toes³³
- Safety straps³³
- Compression stockings







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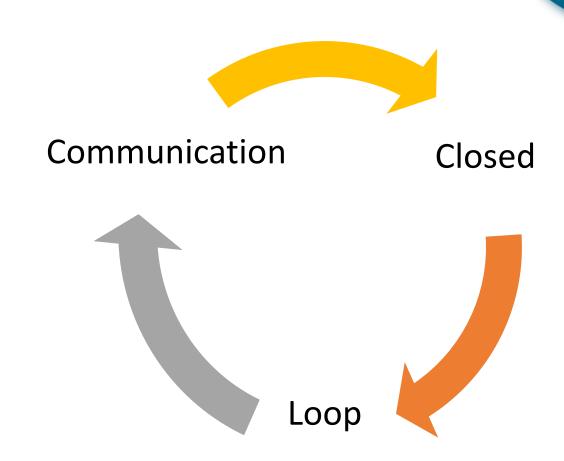
^{33.} Guideline for positioning the patient. In: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023:701-750.

Case Study Avoidable or Non-Avoidable?

- 47 y/o scheduled for bilateral total knee arthroplasty
 - BMI 59
 - Multiple co-morbid conditions, ASA Score 3
 - Surgical cases scheduled concurrently for 3.38 hrs.
- OR table pad supports 500 lbs., standard pad on table.
- Routine positioning practices per anesthesia i.e. blanket roll to keep knee in alignment.
- RESULT
 - Post op day one: Significant pain in sacral area with discoloration noted.
 - HAPI Stage IV

Hand-over communication³⁹

- Standardized hand-over tools, checklists, protocols
- Briefing
- Time Out
- Debriefing
- Education e.g. Team Training



Communication tools "I-PASS"³⁶



Illness Severity

Patient Summary: Surgical Procedure³⁵

- Risk and skin assessments
- Type of surgery, position, time on table

Action List: Consult WOC Nurse, Recheck sacral area in 1 hour

Situational Awareness and Contingency Plan Synthesis by Receiver

^{35.} Guideline for team communication. In: *Guidelines for Perioperative Practice*. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2023:1155-1183.

^{36.} Starmer A, Schnock K, Lyons A, et al Effects of the I-PASS Nursing Handoff Bundle on communication quality and workflow *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2017;26:949-957.

Post-op assessment

Document the following

- Pre and postoperative skin and risk assessments²
- Team members³³
- Patient position³³
- Extremity position³³
- Specific actions to prevent injury^{2,33}
- Type and location of devices³³



Pediatric patients²

- Pediatric risk assessment tool
- Skin assessment
- PI prevention bundle
- Support surfaces
- Reposition head Q2Hr





Quality initiatives

Root cause analysis and action (RCA²)³⁷



How to prevent it from happening again?

37. National Patient Safety Foundation. RCA2: Improving Root Cause Analyses and Actions to Prevent Harm. <a href="https://www.ashp.org/-/media/assets/policy-guidelines/docs/endorsed-documents/endorsed-do

High reliability principles³⁸

- Deference to expertise
 - Team member insight
- Reluctance to simplify
 - A-3
- Sensitivity to operations
 - Cost/Inventory
 - Computer based interventions
- Commitment to resilience
 - Continued support and education
- Preoccupation with failure
 - Constant re-evaluation





Contact Information



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AORN LIVE EVENTS

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References

- 1. Gendron, F. "Burns" occurring during lengthy surgical procedures. *Journal of Clinical Engineering*. 1980;5:19–26.
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