

Type of Abuse	Non-Reportable	Requires Consideration	Reportable
PRESSURE ULCER Pressure ulcers (also known as pressure sores or bedsores) are injuries to the skin and underlying tissue, primarily caused by prolonged pressure on the skin. Please see a helpful NHS (2021) visual document of different categories of pressure ulcers.	Low Risk No Impact Lower-level concern where the threshold for further enquiries under safeguarding are unlikely to be met. However, a record should be kept of what happened and what action was taken. Where there are a number of low-level concerns consideration should be given as to whether the threshold is met for a safeguarding enquiry due to increased risk.	Medium Risk Some harm or risk of harm Incidents at this level should be formally raised as a safeguarding concern with the local authority Adult Social Care department. After the conversation, they may request you formally report the concern as a safeguarding.	High Risk Significant harm or risk of harm Incidents at this level should be formally raised as a safeguarding concern with the local authority Adult Social Care department. Consideration should also be given as to whether the police or other emergency services need to be contacted. Ensure whole family approaches if children or other adults may be impacted.
	Examples: Single incident of Category 1 or 2 pressure ulcer. Category 3 & 4, unstageable and suspected deep tissue injury, or multiple Category 2 pressure ulcers where: • A care plan is in place • Action is being taken • Other relevant professionals are involved such as Tissue Viability Nurses • There has been full discussion with the person, their family or representative • There are no other indicators of abuse or neglect or unexplained deterioration	Examples: Category 3 or 4 pressure ulcers, unstageable and suspected deep tissue injury pressure ulcers, or multiple Category 1 and 2 pressure ulcers, where: • The care plan has not been fully implemented • Deterioration has taken place without explanation – e.g., Category 2 has been re-categorised as a Category 3-4 ulcer • It is not clear that professional advice or support has been sought at the appropriate time such as from Tissue Viability Nurses • There are other similar incidents of concern. • There are possible other indicators of neglect	Examples: Category 3 or 4, unstageable and suspected deep tissue injury, where: • The person has not been assessed as lacking capacity and treatment and prevention has not been provided • No risk assessment and/or care plan completed or of very poor quality • There are other incidents of abuse or neglect • Evidence demonstrates that this is part of a pattern/trend • A root cause analysis or investigation has commenced or is in progress
Actions/Outcomes to consider at every stage	• Follow own policy/ procedure • NICE guidelines • Onward referrals for support, e.g. Tissue Viability Nurses • Consider medical condition, prognosis,	• Care Act Assessment/Review • Refer to local guidance • Onward referrals • Tissue Viability Nurse input requested	RAISE SAFEGUARDING CONCERN If there is an indication a criminal act has occurred, the police MUST be consulted. Immediate safety plans must be implemented.

	hydration/ nutrition		
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