

DISPOSABLE WATERPROOF SUPERSORB INCONTINENCE PRODUCTS REDUCE INCIDENCES OF PRESSURE INJURY IN PATIENTS AND HOSPITAL COSTS

Stefanie Ma²; Dorothy Michaels NP¹; Amit Rao, MD¹; Alisha Oropallo, MD^{1,2}

¹Northwell Health System, Department of Surgery, Comprehensive Wound Care Healing and Hyperbarics, Lake Success, NY 11042; ²Donald & Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Hempstead, NY 11550

INTRODUCTION

Pressure injury was first described as “gangrea per decubitus,” meaning dead tissue due to lying down. Individuals that spend long periods of time in bedrest are at an increased risk of pressure injuries and moisture damage to their skin. Pressure injuries cost hospitals a lot of money and are difficult to heal completely, even with proper care. Thus it is in the patient’s and hospital’s best interest to put in practices that will prevent pressure injury.



HYPOTHESIS

Only using a disposable, waterproof, supersorb incontinence pad on top of the mattress will reduce incidences of pressure injury, and hospital costs associated with pressure injury.

METHODS

PDSA Study

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| <p>Day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One unit of primarily elderly patients (n=27 average daily) given Attends Supersorb incontinence pads - Another unit of patients was given plastic backed incontinence pads and briefs to wear | <p>Day 92</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measured incidences of pressure injury and moisture damage - Calculated costs of Attends pads over 92 days - Calculated costs of plastic backed incontinence pads and briefs over 92 days |
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RESULTS

Laundry	Briefs	Total	Attends	Difference
\$997.25	\$474.68	\$1471.93	\$1836.44	\$-364.51

We found that patients in the unit who used the disposable, waterproof, super absorbent incontinence pad were less likely to develop pressure injury, and incontinence or moisture associated contact dermatitis than the unit that used plastic backed incontinence pads with briefs. Patients with existing moisture damage completely recovered after use of the disposable, waterproof, super absorbent incontinence pad.

Use of disposable, waterproof, super absorbent incontinence products would also decrease the hospital costs associated with pressure injury care. The cost of the laundry for the plastic backed incontinence pads and briefs totaled \$1471.93 (Table 1). The cost of the disposable waterproof super absorbent incontinence pads totaled \$1836.44.

CONCLUSIONS

We have shown that using only a disposable, waterproof, super absorbent incontinence product on top of the mattress decreases the number of pressure injuries and moisture damage in patients as well as hospital costs for pressure injury care when compared to the use of plastic backed incontinence pads with briefs.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

While the disposable pads did cost \$364.51 more, continued use of the disposable, waterproof, super absorbent product would lower incidence of pressure injuries, making it a more affordable option for hospitals.

We plan to educate the nursing departments of Plainview and Syosset Hospitals on the use of this product as it has been shown to be effective at reducing incidences of pressure injury and moisture damage in hospitalized patients and reducing costs of care for hospitals. We hope that more hospitals will begin to adopt this new product into their care for patients to provide the maximum benefit to patients, nurses, and hospitals.

REFERENCES

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