



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care



National Aged Care Mandatory Quality Indicator Program

Quick Reference Guide: Pressure Injuries

This quick reference guide provides information for approved providers of residential aged care to understand and meet their obligations to collect and report data on pressure injuries for the QI Program.

The pressure injuries quality indicator is reported against:



Percentage of care recipients with pressure injuries, reported against six pressure injury stages

A **pressure injury** is a localised injury to the skin and/or underlying tissue, usually over a bony prominence, as a result of pressure, shear, or a combination of these factors.

Six pressure injury stages

Pressure injuries are classified in six stages according to the ICD 10 Australian Modified (AM) pressure injury classification system:

- Stage 1 Pressure Injury
- Stage 2 Pressure Injury
- Stage 3 Pressure Injury
- Stage 4 Pressure Injury
- Unstageable Pressure Injury
- Suspected Deep Tissue Injury

Collect pressure injuries data



Identify a date once every quarter to assess each care recipient residing at the service for pressure injuries, this assessment should be on or around the same time each quarter.

Inform care recipients about the proposed observation assessment and ensure consent is sought from each care recipient before the assessment can take place.



Conduct a full-body observation assessment of each care recipient residing at the service during the quarter to assess for the presence of pressure injuries. Where possible, do this as part of the care recipient's usual personal care.



Record the number of care recipients:

- excluded because they were absent from the service for the entire quarter
- excluded because they withheld consent to undergo an observation assessment for pressure injuries for the entire quarter
- with one or more pressure injuries, as well as against each of the six pressure injury stages
- with one or more pressure injuries that were acquired outside of the service during the quarter, as well as against each of the six pressure injury stages

Approved providers of residential aged care must collect and report on pressure injuries data quarterly, according to the requirements set out in the QI Program Manual 4.0 – Part A (Manual).

Report pressure injuries data



Report the number of care recipients:

- with one or more pressure injuries
- with one or more pressure injuries, reported against each of the six pressure injury stages



Additionally, report the number of care recipients:

- assessed for pressure injuries
- excluded because they withheld consent to undergo an observation assessment for pressure injuries
- excluded because they were absent from the service for the entire quarter
- with one or more pressure injuries acquired outside of the service during the quarter
- with one or more pressure injuries acquired outside of the service during the quarter, reported against each of the six pressure injury stages

EXAMPLE

Care recipient A

- two Stage 2
- one suspected deep tissue

Care recipient B

- no pressure injuries

Care recipient C

- one Stage 1 acquired outside the service last quarter
- one Stage 3 acquired in hospital this quarter

3	Number of care recipients assessed for pressure injuries		
0	Number of care recipients excluded because they withheld consent to undergo an observation assessment for pressure injuries		
0	Number of care recipients excluded because they were absent from the service for the entire quarter		
2	Number of care recipients with one or more pressure injuries		
	Number of care recipients with one or more pressure injuries against each of the pressure injury stages:		
1	Stage 1 Pressure injury	0	Stage 4 Pressure injury
1	Stage 2 Pressure injury	0	Unstageable Pressure injury
1	Stage 3 Pressure injury	1	Suspected Deep Tissue Pressure injury
1	Number of care recipients with one or more pressure injuries acquired outside of the service during the quarter		
	Number of care recipients with one or more pressure injuries acquired outside of the service during the quarter against each of the pressure injury stages:		
0	Stage 1 Pressure injury	0	Stage 4 Pressure injury
0	Stage 2 Pressure injury	0	Unstageable Pressure injury
1	Stage 3 Pressure injury	0	Suspected Deep Tissue Pressure injury

Data recording templates for each quality indicator are available on the department's website. Use the templates to automatically calculate and summarise data for submission through the Government Provider Management System.

Submit QI Program data

There are three ways QI Program data can be submitted:



1. Through the GPMS
2. Via a bulk file upload
3. Through a third-party benchmarking company



Data must be submitted by the **21st day of the month after the end of each quarter**



More information

The QI Program Manual, and other guidance materials, are available on the Department of Health and Aged Care [website](#).

For QI Program assistance, contact the My Aged Care provider and assessor helpline on 1800 836 799. The helpline is available between 8am and 8pm Monday to Friday, and between 10am and 2pm on Saturday local time across Australia, except for public holidays.