

Dimitri Beeckmann: Overview of the latest update of the PU guidelines and IAD (Incontinence Associated Dermatitis)

Maintaining skin health and preventing skin barrier damage are integral components of daily nursing practise in all healthcare settings. Maintaining skin integrity is an important quality indicator that contributes to positive patient outcomes and is considered more cost effective compared to wound care. Healthy skin is strong, resilient and has a high repair capacity. However, due to ageing and altered physiology, skin integrity can be compromised in certain populations. People with increased skin vulnerability are at increased risk for a number of skin lesions, with pressure ulcers and incontinence-related dermatitis (IAD) being among the most common conditions. Depending on severity, both conditions can have a significant impact on patients' physical, social and psychological well-being. International guidelines recommend the timely application of preventive measures to successfully prevent pressure ulcers and IAD. However, there are some important knowledge gaps that limit the effectiveness of current strategies to some extent. In this context, this presentation will focus on early detection of deep tissue damage and prevention of IAD in adults.