Protocols by Level of Risk

AT RISK (15-18)*

FREQUENT TURNING
MAXIMAL REMOBILIZATION
PROTECT HEELS
MANAGE MOISTURE, NUTRITION
AND FRICTION AND SHEAR
PRESSURE-REDUCTION SUPPORT SURFACE
IF

BED- OR CHAIR-BOUND

* If other major risk factors are present
(advanced age, fever, poor dietary intake of protein,
diastolic pressure below 60, hemodynamic instability)
advance to next level of risk

MANAGE MOISTURE

USE COMMERCIAL MOISTURE BARRIER
USE ABSORBANT PADS OR DIAPERS THAT
WICK & HOLD MOISTURE
ADDRESS CAUSE IF POSIBLE
OFFER BEDPAN/URINAL AND GLASS OF
WATER IN CONJUNCTION WITH TURNING
SCHEDULES

MODERATE RISK (13-14)*

TURNING SCHEDULE
USE FOAM WEDGES FOR 30! LATERAL
POSITIONING
PRESSURE-REDUCTION SUPPORT SURFACE
MAXIMAL REMOBILIZATION
PROTECT HEELS
MANAGE MOISTURE, NUTRITION
AND FRICTION AND SHEAR
* If other major risk factors present,

MANAGE NUTRITION

INCREASE PROTEIN INTAKE
INCREASE CALORIE INTAKE TO SPARE
PROTEINS.
SUPPLEMENT WITH MULTI-VITAMIN
(SHOULD HAVE VIT A, C & E)
ACT QUICKLY TO ALLEVIATE DEFICITS
CONSULT DIETITIAN

advance to next level of risk HIGH RISK (10-12)

INCREASE FREQUENCY OF TURNING
SUPPLEMENT WITH SMALL SHIFTS
PRESSURE REDUCTION SUPPORT SURFACE
USE FOAM WEDGES FOR 30! LATERAL
POSITIONIING
MAXIMAL REMOBILIZATION
PROTECT HEELS
MANAGE MOISTURE, NUTRITION
AND FRICTION AND SHEAR

MANAGE FRICTION & SHEAR

ELEVATE HOB NO MORE THAN 30!
USE TRAPEZE WHEN INDICATED
USE LIFT SHEET TO MOVE PATIENT
PROTECT ELBOWS & HEELS IF BEING
EXPOSED TO FRICTION

VERY HIGH RISK (9 or below)

ALL OF THE ABOVE

USE PRESSURE-RELIEVING SURFACE IF PATIENT HAS INTRACTABLE PAIN OR

SEVERE PAIN EXACERBATED BY TURNING OR

ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS
*low air loss beds do not substitute for turning schedules

OTHER GENERAL CARE ISSUES

NO MASSAGE OF REDDENED BONY
PROMINENCES
NO DO-NUT TYPE DEVICES
MAINTAIN GOOD HYDRATION
AVOID DRYING THE SKIN