

Guidelines for Pressure Ulcer: Stage 2 Care



Definition:

Partial thickness skin loss involving the dermis. May present as an open blister or shallow crater without slough or bruising. Stage 2 pressure ulcers happen because of pressure: therefore, the term/description stage 2 pressure ulcer should not be used to describe skin tears, tape burns, maceration, excoriation. Stage 2 Pressure Ulcers can show improvement within 1 – 2 weeks.

Goal:

- Maintain moist environment
- Attempt to minimize causing factors

Treatment:

Obtain a physician order:

1. Use Standard Precautions
2. Clean wound with Normal Saline or with Dermal Wound Cleanser for infected wounds
3. Pat dry
4. For blisters: cover with protective non adherent dressing
5. For an open wound: apply thin film of wound gel (examples include saf-gel or Duo derm gel) and a thin hydrocolloid (Duo Derm Extra Thin) or foam dressing (PolyMem or Allevyn) (Also see Wound Care: Shallow Dry and Shallow Wet for more information)
6. Change twice a week and/or PRN
7. Document per agency guidelines

Mattress recommendation:

Foam /Gel Cushion for chair

**** Note: These are wound care guidelines only. Consult with the primary physician for specific orders.***

