TRIAL OF A NEW PATIENT ALERT TECHNOLOGY IN LONG TERM CARE

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1 to 3 million people in the US develop pressure injuries each year

60,000 people die from pressure injury complications each year

2.5 million patients in hospitals suffer from pressure injuries

THE PROBLEM

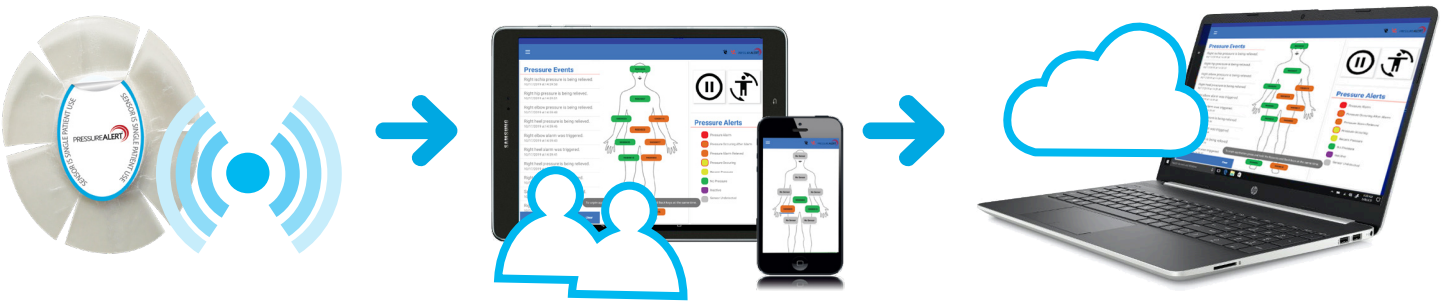
It is estimated that 1–3 million people in the United States (US) develop pressure injuries each year (Russo, Steiner & Spector, 2006). Kruger et al., (2013), further stated that the United States Joint Commission on Patient Safety estimates that more than 2.5 million patients in hospitals suffer from pressure injuries, and that 60,000 die from pressure injury complications each year.

Additionally, pressure injuries are costing the US healthcare system more than $12 billion annually (Kruger et al., 2013). Not counting and most importantly, patient suffering and quality of life.

$12 billion annually is the cost of pressure injuries to the US healthcare system

THE TRIAL

The study aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of an innovative technology called the PressureAlert in the prevention and management of pressure injuries. The PressureAlert solution is a device that uses specialized dressings, sensors, tablets and cloud software to sense and manage localized pressure on high risk patients.



Forty-nine patients were enrolled, 32 in the control group and 17 in the experimental group. A PressureAlert dressing was applied to the experimental group and skin integrity was assessed every 2 to 3 days for the length of the trial.

Control Group 32

Experimental Group 17

RESULTS/CONCLUSION

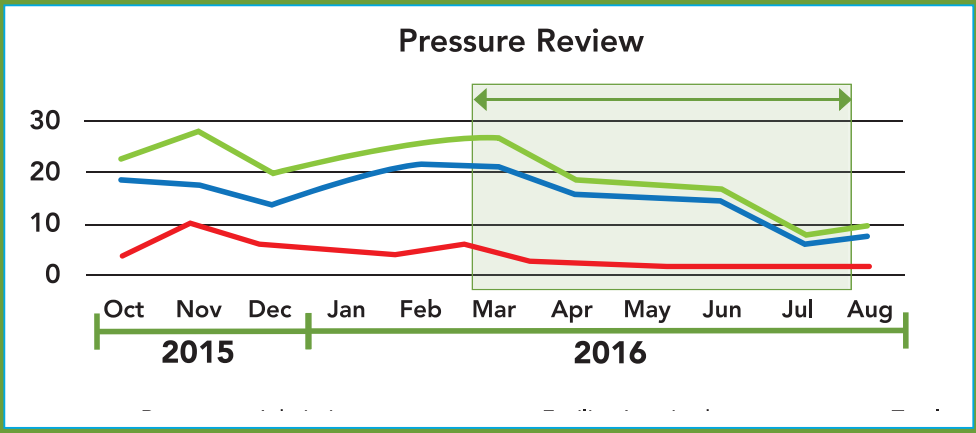
100% of pre-existing pressure injures closed. Stage 2 pressure injuries closed within an average of 17.5 days and Stage 3 pressure injury closed within 18.6 days. Despite the high risk of developing heel and sacrum pressure injuries, none of the patients developed a new pressure injury during the length of the trial. This occurred despite the fact that all patients had a Braden Score less than or equal to 18 as well as significant limited mobility (79% had immobility issues that either required two-person assist or they were completely dependent).

Stage 2 pressure injuries closed within an average of **17.5 DAYS**

Stage 3 pressure injuries closed within an average of **18.6 DAYS**

NONE
of the PressureAlert patients developed pressure injuries

OVERALL DECREASE IN PRESSURE INJURIES DURING THE TRIAL PERIOD



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