

# Wound Care Review Best Practice Guidelines

Successful Wound Management Strategies : An Introduction

Alex Khan, APRN ACNS-BC

# Goals & Objectives

- The role and importance of wound care management
- Identify and document wounds based on CMS / ICD 9 / ICD 10 criteria
- Review and classify wound types based on their perspective classification
- Appropriately utilize major elements of wound assessment
- Understand role of pain assessment and documentation in wound care
- Review the importance of digital wound imaging in documentation
- Understand best practice guidelines and documentation of wounds

## Overview

In today's home health care market, there is a need for increased awareness about the management, treatment and documentation of wounds. Inaccurate documentation and classification of the wounds leads to:

- Inappropriate treatment of the wounds
- Delayed healing of wounds
- Suboptimal Medicare reimbursement
- Decreased quality of care delivery by the agency
- Dissatisfied clients

# Wound Care Litigation

#### **Current statistics on Verdicts and Settlements**

- Average Reported Award 2005-2010: \$4,154,592
- Highest Awards 2005-2010
- Dallas County, Texas: \$84,425,000
- Los Angeles County, California: \$48,493,140
- Cook County, Illinois: \$25,613,42



## Cost of Treatment

# Long Term Care Facilities/Hospitals What it means to you per incident:

Pressure Ulcer

\$3,259 to \$52,930

Venous Stasis Ulcer

\$9,695 per patient

Neuropathic Ulcer

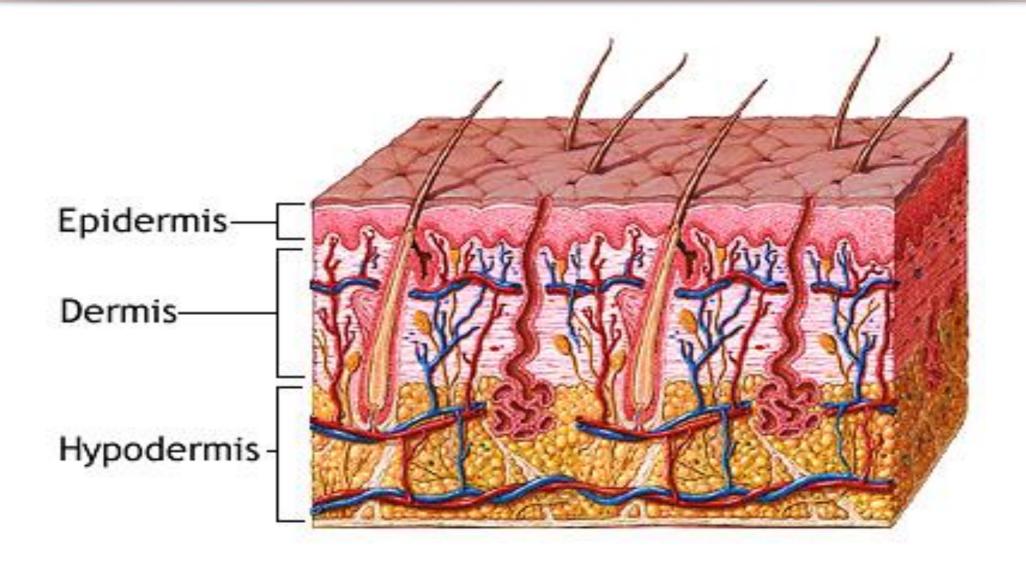
\$16,000 to \$28,000 per incident

Source: WoundVision.com

It is extremely important that all documentation is completed thoroughly and accurately, this will prevent inaccurate reimbursement, claims denial and payment refunds. 90% of denied claims are due to lack of or incomplete documentation.



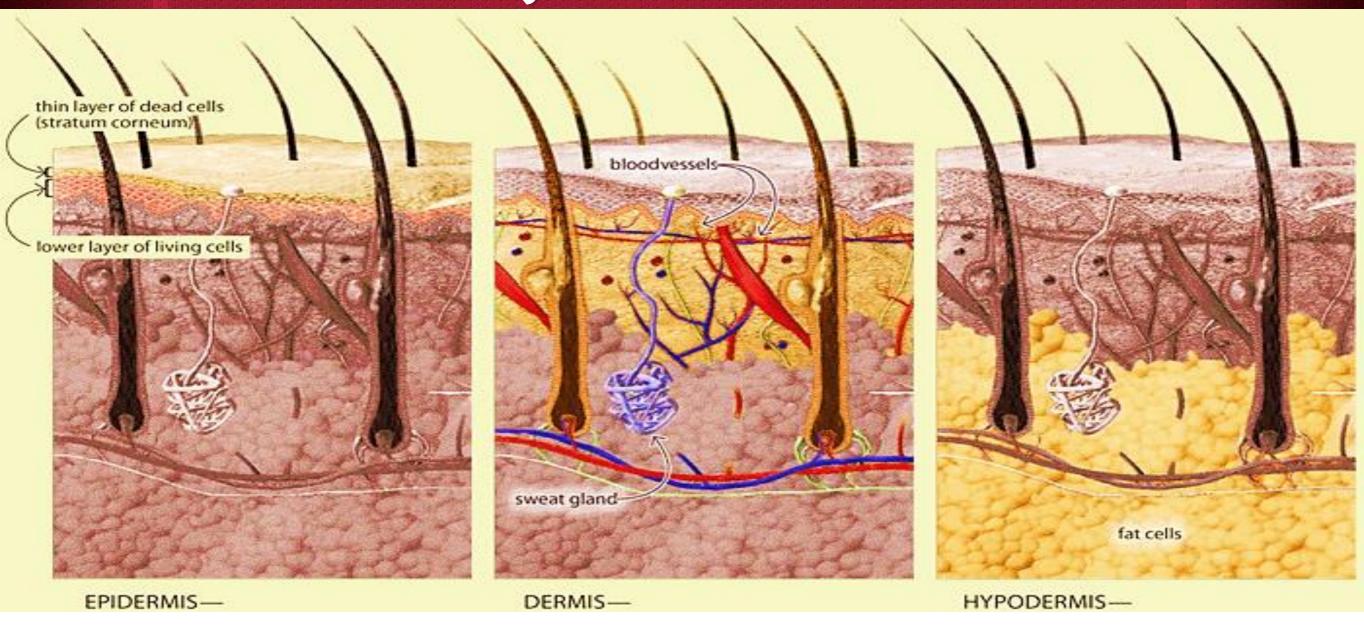
# Normal Skin



## Skin

- Skin is the largest organ of the body
- Skin is not just one static layer; it varies in thickness depending on on the location of the body. The thickest skin is found on the bottoms of the feet, while the thinnest is found around the eyes
- There are 3 layers of the Skin:
  - Epidermis, Dermis & Subcutaneous

# Layers of the Skin



# Type of Wounds

# **IMPORTANT**ANNOUNCEMENT

# All wounds are not pressure ulcers!



# Classification of Wounds

- Pressure Ulcers
- Diabetic / Neuropathic Ulcers
- Venous Stasis Ulcers
- Arterial / Ischemic Ulcers
- Surgical Wounds
- Atypical Wounds
- Fungating / Malignant Wounds
- Burns



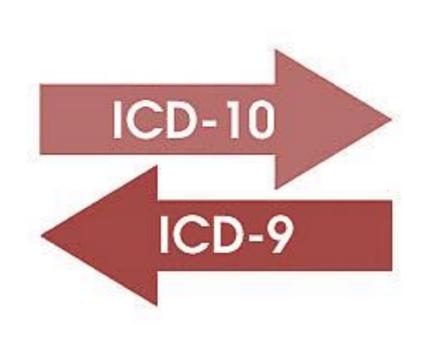
## OASIS: M1020/1022/1024

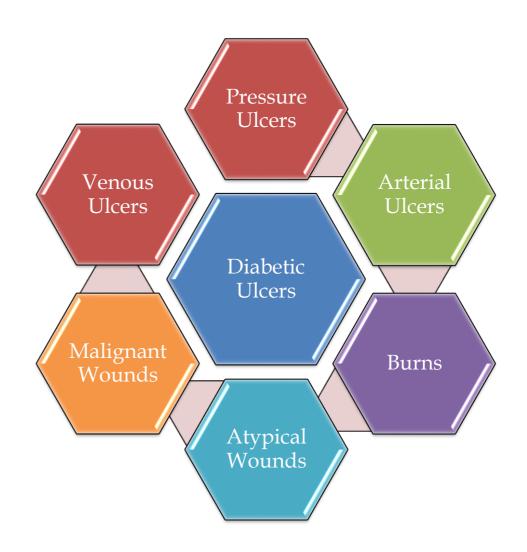
#### Diagnosis, Symptom Control, and Payment Diagnosis

- List each diagnosis for which the patient is receiving home care and enter is ICD-9-CM code at the level of highest specificity.
- Diagnosis are listed in the order that best reflect the seriousness of each condition and support the disciplines and services provided.

## Are these sections filled out accurately?

Wounds must be appropriately documented based on CMS specified diagnoses criteria





**Pressure Ulcer STAGE** I 707.21

**Pressure Ulcer STAGE II** 707.22

**Pressure Ulcer STAGE-III** 707.23

**Cellulitis** 940 - 948 681 - 682

Gangrene 785.4

**Pressure Ulcer** Stage-IV 707.24

**Pressure Ulcer Un-Stageable** 707.20

**Pressure Ulcer** Deep Tissue Injury 707.25

Osteomyelitis 730.07

Non-Healing **Surgical Wound** 998.83

Skin Infection 686.90

**Diabetic Foot** Ulcer 707.13 - 707.19 Disruption **Operation** Wound 998.32

Burns

**Trauma Wounds** 870 - 897

**Pyoderma** 686.0

Venous Leg Ulcer 459.81

**Arterial Ulcer** 440.23

Calciphylaxis 275.49

Contact **Dermatitis** 692.9

#### **OASIS Section M1020**

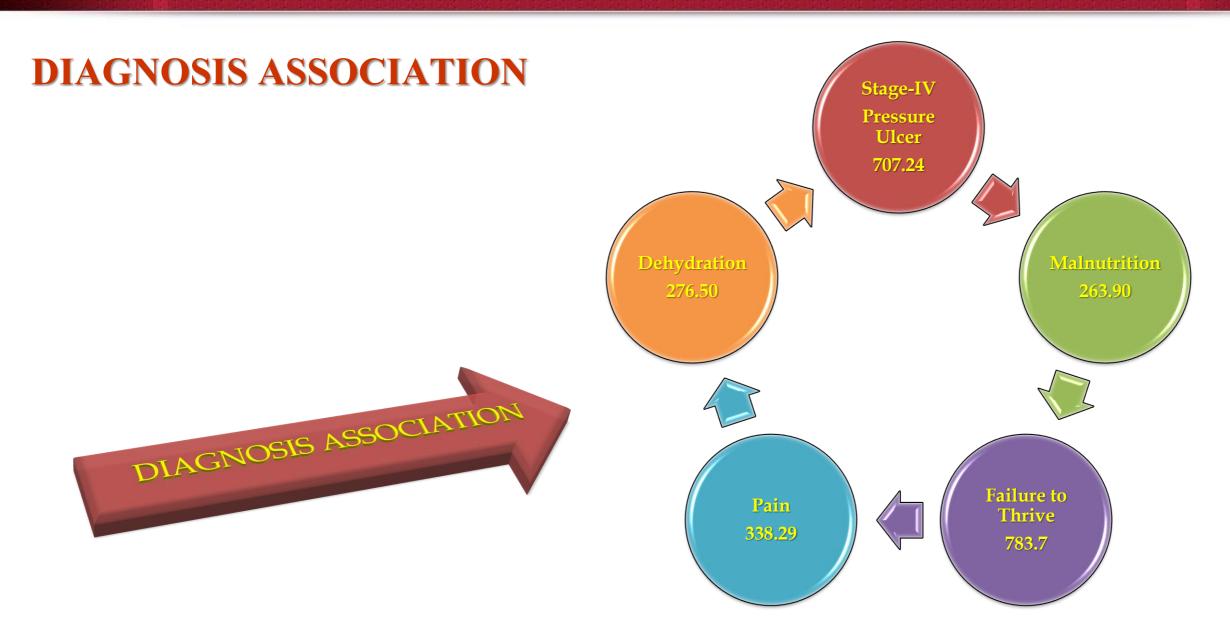
Documentation should describe the patient's condition, using terminology which includes specific diagnoses as well as symptoms, problems, or reasons for the service. In addition, secondary codes must be documented that describe any coexisting conditions

Pressure Ulcer Stage IV

## OASIS: M1032 ~ Risk for Hospitalization

# Which of the following signs or symptoms characterize this patient as a risk for hospitalization?

- Recent decline in mental emotional, or behavioral status
- Multiple hospitalizations (2 or more) in the past 12 months
- History of falls (2 or more falls or any fall with injury in the past year)
- Taking five or more medications
- Frailty indicators, e.g., weight loss, self-reported exhaustion
- Other Can Wounds cause hospitalizations?



#### **DIAGNOSIS ASSOCIATION**

**DIAGNOSIS** 

**DIABETES MELLITUS** 

250.80

**DIAGNOSIS** 

**NEUROPATHY** 

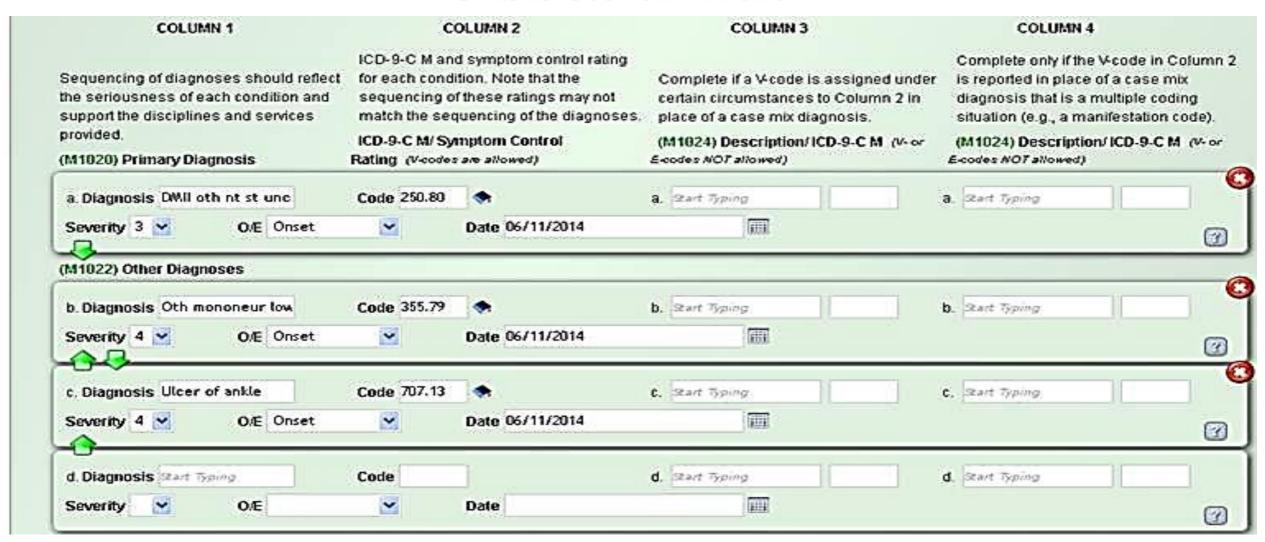
355.79 (8) (9)

**DIAGNOSIS** 

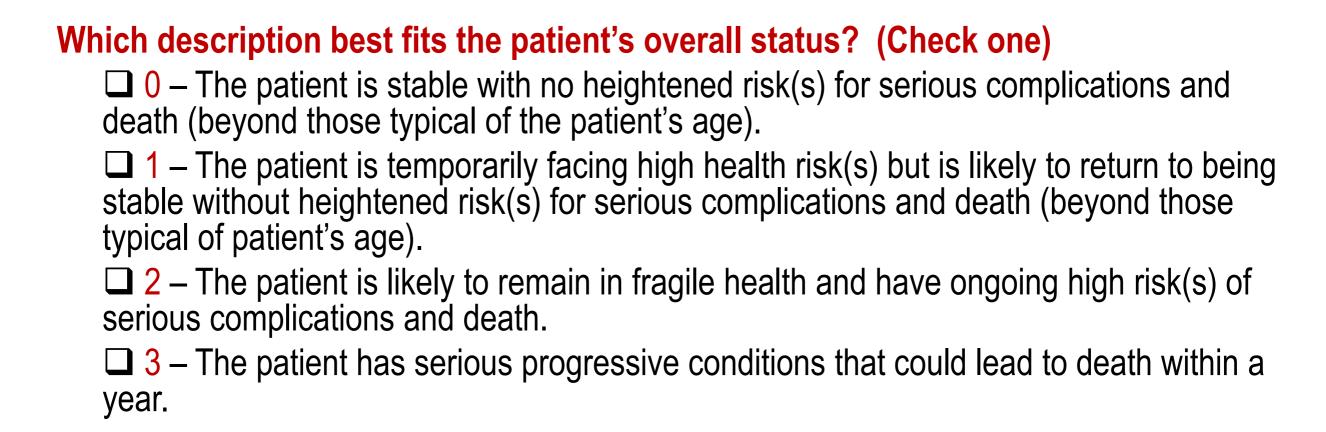
DIABETIC FOOT ULCER

707.13 - (19)

#### **OASIS Section M1020**



## OASIS: M1034 ~ Overall Status



## Can Wounds increase the risks & complications?

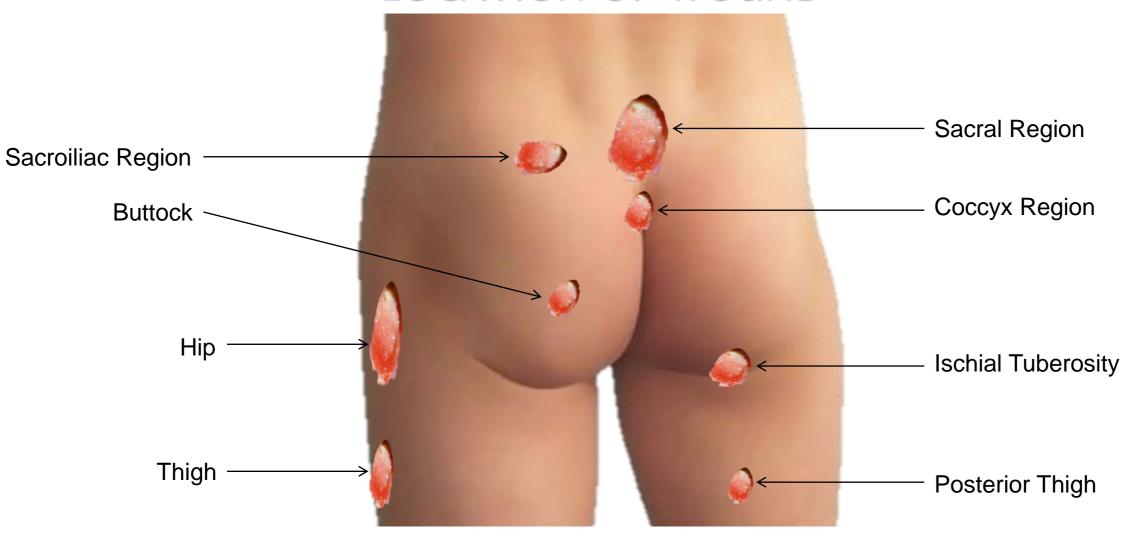
## **LOCATION OF WOUND**





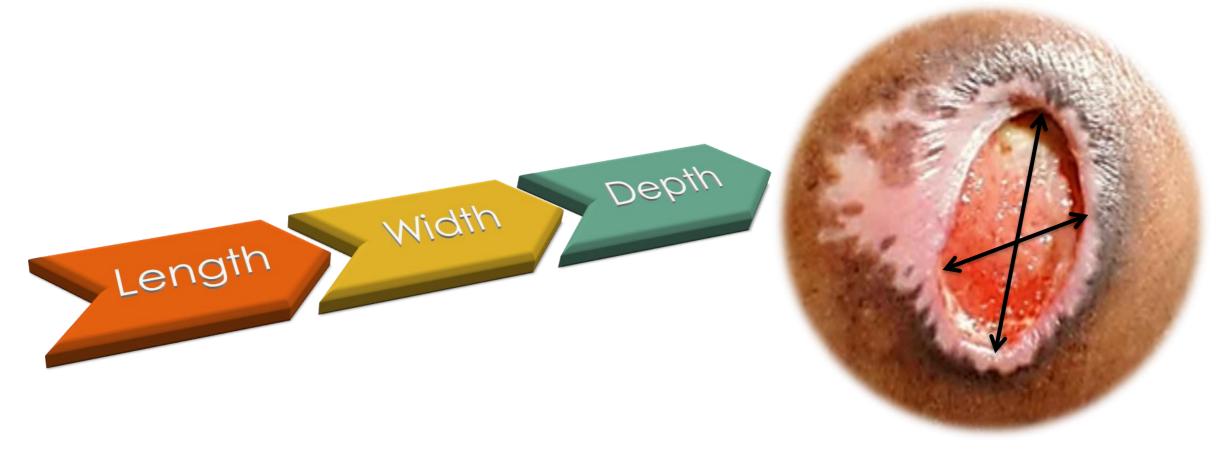
Plantar Aspect

#### LOCATION OF WOUND



#### **WOUND MEASUREMENT**

It is extremely important to measure the wound periodically since it shows the actual progress of the wound. (Length x Width x Depth)



## **WOUND MEASUREMENT**

Tunneling Channel that runs from the wound edge through to other tissue

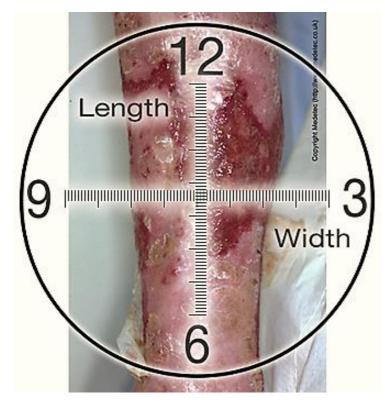
"deepest tunneling at 9 o'clock, measuring 3 cm long"

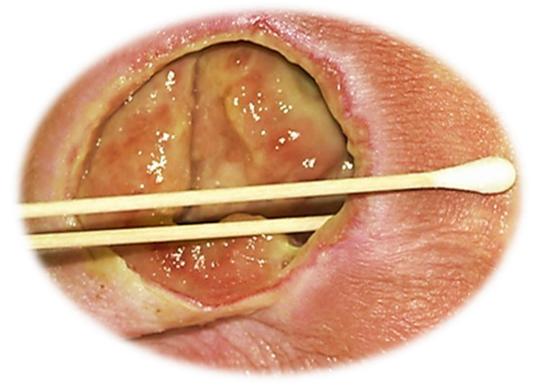


## **WOUND MEASUREMENT**

Undermining is a separation of tissue from the surface under the edge of the wound. Describe by clock face with patients head at 12

"undermining is 1 cm from 12 to 4 o'clock"





#### **WOUND CHARACTERISTICS**

Wounds shall be documented by percentage of each type of tissue in the wound bed

### **Granulation Tissue**

red or pink color with cobblestone like appearance (healing, filling in)

### Necrotic / Non-Viable

Slough-yellow, tan dead tissue (devitalized)

Eschar-black/brown necrotic tissue, can be hard or soft

## WOUND CHARACTERISTICS

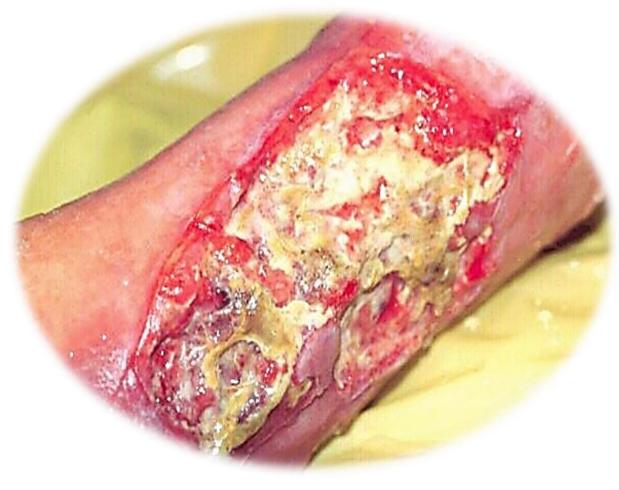
**Granulation Tissue** 



## WOUND CHARACTERISTICS

Necrotic / Non-Viable Tissue





#### WOUND CHARACTERISTICS

Drainage & Odor

### **Exudate (Wound Drainage)**

Document the amount, type and odor. Scant, Moderate, heavy. Drainage can be Serous/clear, sanguineous (bloody), serosanguineous (blood-tinged), purulent (cloudy, pus-yellow, green)

## <u>Odor</u>

Most wounds have an odor. Be sure to clean wound well first before assessing odor (wound cleanser, saline)Describe foul odor as mild, moderate, or strong.

#### WOUND CHARACTERISTICS

## Peri-Wound Skin Status

Viable, macerated, inflamed Color-erythema (purple appearance on dark skin), pale

Texture-dry, moist, boggy (soft), macerated (white, soggy appearance), edema
Temperature-cool, warm

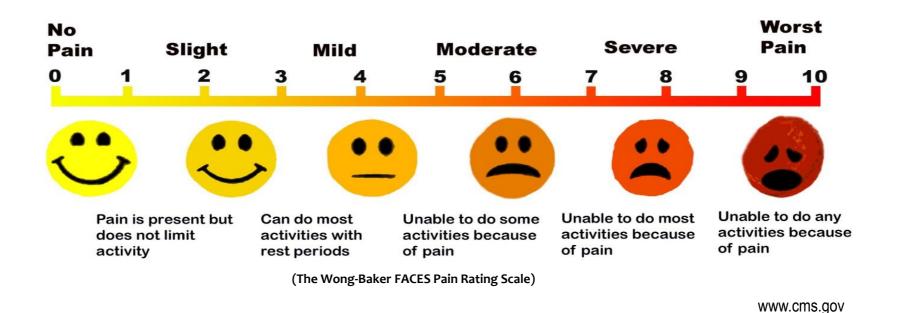
Skin integrity- lesions, excoriation, maceration, denuded (loss of epidermis)

## OASIS: M1240/M1242 ~ Pain



Pain related to wounds must be assessed and documented appropriately.

## **How is your Pain Today?**



# Wound Care Digital Photo Documentation

#### A PICTURE CAN BE WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

- Wound digital imaging improves the documentation which may protect to agency against a complaint or a lawsuit, improves coordination of care among clinicians and serve as a tool for patient and family education.
- Wound images taken consistently during the delivery of care can provide evidence that the wound was regularly assessed and monitored by the agency.
- Informed consent must be completed during the admission before wounds are photographed.
- A minimal of 14.0 megapixel digital camera is ideal for wound imagin
- Weekly wound imaging is the recommended best practice.



## Wound Care Best Practice Model

- Patients with skin problems or wounds or high risk for developing wounds shall be assessed by a Wound Care Nurse (WCN).
- Digital wound images must be implemented as an integral part of the care delivery.
- Weekly measurements of wounds shall be completed and documented in the medical records.
- Electronic medical record (EMR) must be able to accommodate the wound images.

## References

```
☐ John A. Hartford Foundation, Institute for Geriatric Nursing:
  http://www.hartfordign.org/index.html
☐ National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel:
  http://npuap.org/
☐ Wound Care Nursing :
  http://www.woundcarenurses.org
☐ Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality:
 Clinical Practice Guidelines:
 http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/cpgonline.htm
☐ National Guideline Clearinghouse:
 Guideline for prevention and management of pressure ulcers:
 http://www.guideline.gov/summary/summary.aspx?ss= 15&doc_id=386o&nbr=3071
```