The Research and Scholarship Symposium

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The Use of Turning and Repositioning Versus Pressure Redistributing Support Surfaces in the Prevention of Pressure Ulcers

Rachel M. Collins
Cedarville University, rmcollins@cedarville.edu

Ayana A. Kleckner
Cedarville University, ayanakleckner@cedarville.edu

Brianna P. Sparks
Cedarville University, bpsparks@cedarville.edu

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Recent research has shown that there are various methods to prevent the occurrence of pressure ulcers. The annual cost of pressure ulcer management is approximately 11 billion dollars. Annual cost of pressure ulcer management is approximately 11 billion dollars.12

In hospitalized critically ill patients, how does turning and repositioning every two to four hours compared to the use of pressure redistributing support surfaces prevent the occurrence of pressure ulcers?

**PATIENT CARE ISSUE**

- “An area of localized damage to skin and underlying tissue over a bony prominence, as a result of pressure, or pressure in combination with shear.”
- Pressure ulcers affect approximately 1.3 to 3 million adults in the United States alone.
- Annual cost of pressure ulcer management is approximately 11 billion dollars.
- Recent research has shown that there are various methods to prevent the occurrence of pressure ulcers.

**EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE QUESTION**

In hospitalized critically ill patients, how does turning and repositioning every two to four hours compared to the use of pressure redistributing support surfaces prevent the occurrence of pressure ulcers?

**P: Hospitalized critically ill patients**

**I: Turning and repositioning q 2-4 hours**

**C: Pressure redistributing support surfaces (PRSS)**

**O: Prevent the occurrence of pressure ulcers**

**METHODS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Databases</th>
<th>Keywords</th>
<th>Inclusion Criteria</th>
<th>Exclusion Criteria</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EBSCOhost</td>
<td>Pressure ulcers</td>
<td>Hospitalized critically ill patients</td>
<td>Small sample size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubMed</td>
<td>Alternating pressure mattresses</td>
<td>Turning and repositioning intervention</td>
<td>No relevance to specific topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>OneSearch</td>
<td>Pressure ulcer prevention</td>
<td>Use of a PRSS</td>
<td>Over 5 years from current date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UpToDate</td>
<td>Turning and repositioning</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RESULTS**

- n=20: articles originally chosen based on relevance
- n=10: articles excluded based on small sample size, no relevance to specific topic and over 5 years from current date
- n=10: articles remaining and expressly relevant to specific topic

**LIMITATIONS**

- Only two interventions were explored
- Lack of generalizability

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**REFERENCES**