

# Patient Safety



Sussex Community  
NHS Foundation Trust

May 2022

## Welcome to the Patient Safety Newsletter...

This month's shout out goes to Catherine Evans, who with the helps of others has put together a 'Why frailty matters' week from 23rd to 27th May 2022. There will be several webinars across the week from staff working in different disciplines, including the Trust Wide Falls Lead, a physiotherapy and advanced clinical practitioner, the dementia leads, pharmacy, a senior dietician, a frailty nurse and Catherine Evans. The week aims is to "enhance all staff's awareness and understanding of frailty as a long-term condition to improve the quality of care we are able to offer to our patients living with frailty." More information can be found [here](#).

Thank-you Catherine, and all others involved, in putting together such an important week!

Best Wishes,

Debbie, Charlotte, Hannah and Mary Jo



Why  
**FRAILTY**  
Matters

### Audit of Unstageable Pressure Ulcers reported on Datix

The patient safety team have worked with Sara Fentiman, Tissue Viability Nurse Specialist, to complete an audit of unstageable pressure ulcers that have been reported on Datix.

The purpose of this audit was to review whether unstageable pressure ulcers reported on Datix in July 2021 met the EPUAP Classification and whether in accordance with SCFT Pressure Ulcer Prevention Standards pressure ulcers were reassessed. We wanted to explore whether Datix reports are reviewed and regraded when categorisation has changed.

The Tissue Viability steering group reviewed the audit results which demonstrated a great reporting culture which we know contributes to improving safety and quality care for our patients.

The audit told us that 70% of unstageable pressure ulcers reported on Datix were correctly categorised. 75% of unstageable pressure ulcers had been referred to the TVN service for specialist assessment, with shout out going to services within the East of the trust who had referred 100% of their patients with unstageable pressure ulcers. Further exploration is needed on how we record and report on Datix when pressure ulcers heal or deteriorate as we found that only 11% of the Datix reports had been reviewed and regraded from ungradeable categorisation when the category had changed

### Patient Safety News Flash!

We have a new Patient Safety Training Advisor! Wendy Tracey-Roberts started with our team in April and has already been out and about across the trust training staff in patient handling. Wendy comes with some fantastic experience, and we are already enjoying working with her and seeing how her previous skills and knowledge mean she is brilliant for this role! Welcome Wendy!

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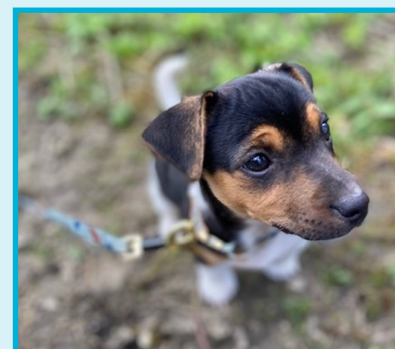
## Risk assessing pressure ulcer equipment

Patients requiring dynamic mattresses who smoke require a robust risk assessment. As dynamic air mattresses are provided for people who spend an extended amount of time in bed they are unlikely to be able to respond to a fire or escape without assistance. For example for patients have been smoking in bed, have dropped a cigarette and then punctured the mattress this has resulted in air being released causing the fire to spread more quickly and intensely. The puncture in the mattress causes the pump to work harder to replace the air further fueling the fire. A fire safety risk assessment undertaken by the fire service is required alongside additional risk assessments appropriate for patients requiring this equipment who smoke. Crib 5 otherwise known as Ignition Source 5 is a term used to refer to materials which have been tested to pass UK fire regulations. A Crib 5 material does not mean it is entirely fireproof but massively reduces the risk of ignition such as the material found on an Invacare Soft Form Premier Active 2 mattress. There is additional information available at the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) website around patients who smoke on dynamic air mattresses. If you require further information regarding appropriate risk assessments around a piece of equipment contact the Integrated Community Equipment Service Lead in your area or either Millbrook (HWLH) or NRS (West Sussex and Brighton and Hove).

## Mascot of the month—sharing ideas

The other day when Britney was out on her walk she came across Billy (another very cheeky and friendly dog who's human also works in Patient Safety!). Britney got chatting to Billy and as part of this conversation Britney heard all about the best walks, what makes them so much fun, where to find the best sticks, and why they work well for him. Britney pondered on this after their meeting, and it made her think about how important it is to share experiences and learning with others who are carrying out a similar activity. She thought how useful it is to have these tips about the best walks from Billy so she too can go on them and benefit from how much fun they are.

This then made her think of her human who is always saying how useful it is to share knowledge and experiences with others. Britney says her humans is always saying that sharing ideas about a common topic, such as patient safety, and having a good discussion is beneficial for all those involved. By sharing these ideas you might be able to improve your own practice or protocols, as well as trying out new things! And it also provides a nice space for mutual support! Britney is looking forward to meeting up with Billy on their walks to get even more insight on the best walks around!



For further information on all things Patient Safety please visit our team page on [The Pulse](#), or follow us on twitter at @scft\_quality