

## White Paper

# Reducing the Prevalence of Pressure Injuries Using a Smartphone App

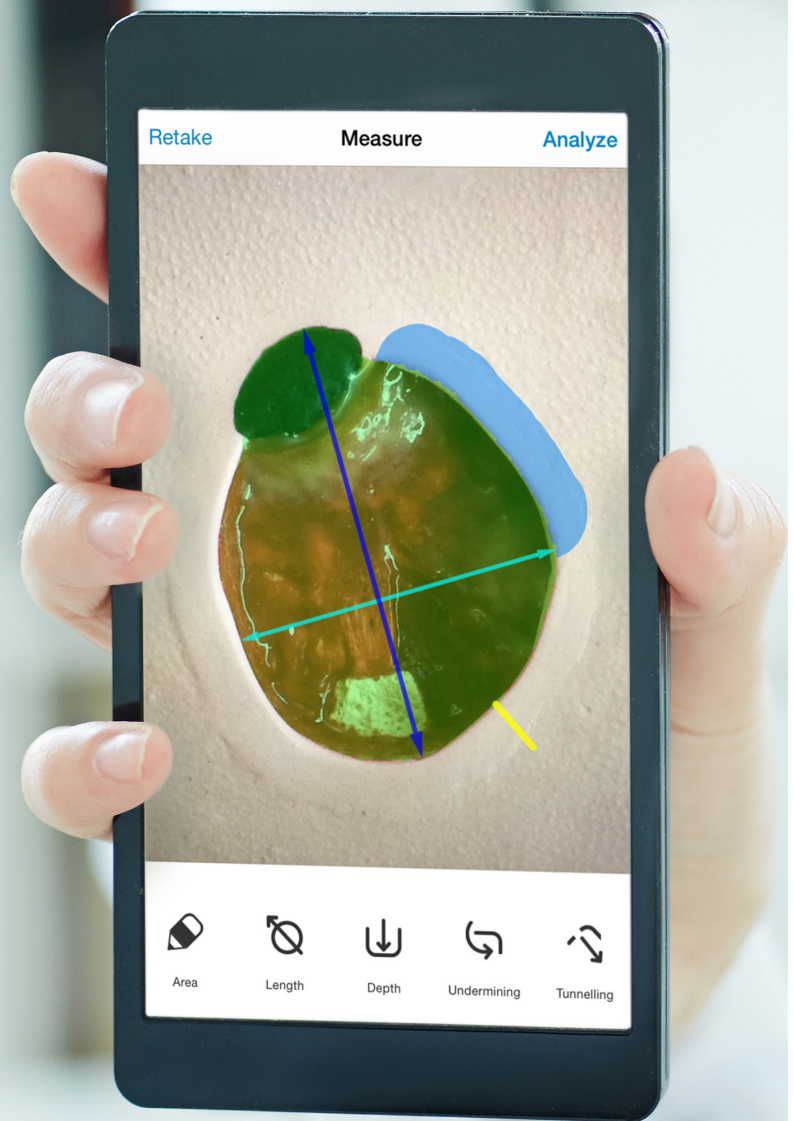
### Objective:

To reduce Pressure Injuries (PIs) at the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) at Teays Valley Center in West Virginia, U.S.A., using quality improvement methodologies and an innovative skin and wound smartphone application.

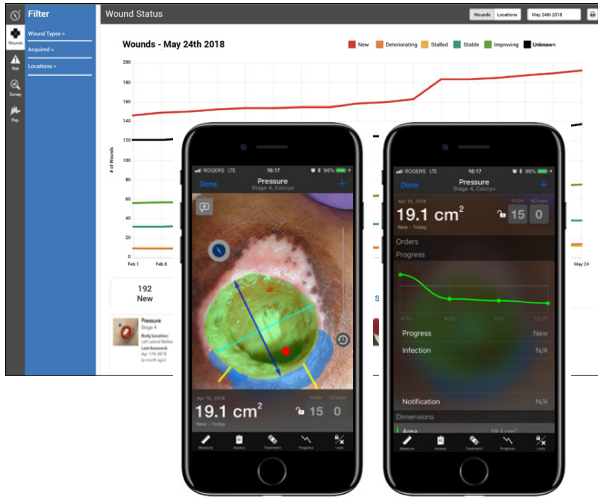
### Background

Pressure Injury, a major type of chronic wound, is a serious healthcare problem reported to affect 11.3% of the population in SNFs.<sup>1</sup>

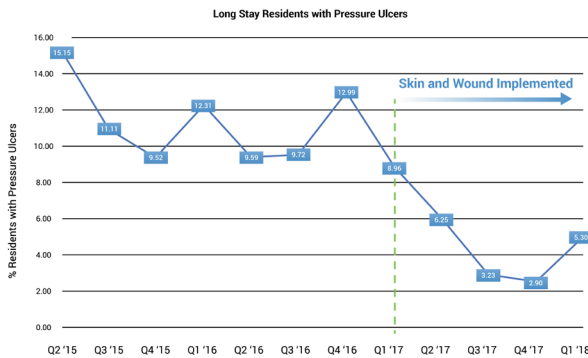
Three initiatives were introduced at a 128-bed SNF to improve PI prevention



**PointClickCare®**



The PointClickCare Skin and Wound App shows point-of-care wound assessment, photographs, measurements, and documentation. Dashboard shows aggregated wound information by progression.



Prevalence of Pressure Injuries (PIs) in long-stay residents in Teays Valley Center skilled nursing facility. Line graphs indicate the percentage of long-stay high-risk residents with pressure injury and, a minimum data set (MDS)-derived quality measure for the yearly quarters indicated. Data obtained from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) nursing home compare website.<sup>2</sup>

## Methods:

Improvements in PI prevention were monitored using CMS-reported quality metrics:

- The percentage of long-stay high-risk residents with PIs
- The percentage of short-stay residents with PIs that are new or worsened

## Results:

- The PI prevalence for long-stay high-risk residents was **12.99% (Q4 2016)** and, upon implementation of these initiatives, the facility saw continued reductions in PI prevalence to as low as **2.9% (Q4 2017)**.
- PI prevalence for short-stay residents was maintained at zero throughout this period.
- Improved the accuracy of wound classification, which in turn had the benefit of enacting correct and appropriate treatment regimens.
- Significant time-savings were reported from using digital documentation to replacing paper-based wound documentation.

We report the results of a quality improvement study examining the consequences of changes in management practice, focusing on the implementation of a digital skin and wound management system, on the prevalence of PIs in both long- and short-stay resident populations, in a SNF.

Implementation of the Skin and Wound app is associated with a reduction in the percentage of patients with PIs, a key minimum data set (MDS)-derived quality metric.

Questions? [Click here to contact us.](#)

<sup>1</sup> Park-Lee E, Caffrey C. Pressure ulcers among nursing home residents: United States, 2004. NCHS Data Brief 2009; 1–8.

<sup>2</sup> CMS. Nursing Home Compare datasets. <https://data.medicare.gov/data/nursing-homecompare> (accessed 16 Aug 2018).