

NPIAP COVID-19 Related Resources for Pressure Injury Prevention

1. **Many health care professionals are wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) the majority of the day. There are increasing reports of pressure injuries from masks, goggles and other PPE.**
 - a. The Portuguese Wound Management Association (APTferidas) has developed a White Paper with many practical recommendations on *Prevention of skin lesions caused by Personal Protective Equipment*. [Link here.](#)
 - b. **If you add prophylactic dressings or other skin protectant products under your mask, double-check and make sure that the seal of your N95 mask is still intact.** Please refer to these CDC links for additional information on N95 mask respirators and how to check the seal to ensure your safety in the face of COVID-19. [Link here.](#)
 - c. Our colleagues on the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (EPUAP) have developed the *COVID-19 and Pressure Ulcer Prevention Forum* where clinicians can share their experiences and good practices. [Link here.](#)
2. **An increasing number of patients with COVID-19 are being placed in prone position as they develop Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS).** The NPIAP has received requests for best practices for prone positioning. Several NPIAP Board members who are actively practicing in critical care units have developed educational material on *Pressure Injury Prevention – PIP Tips for Prone Positioning*. [Link here.](#)
3. **We are all caring for an increasing number of patients with COVID-19 being treated with CPAP and BiPAP. These patients often require high HOB elevation to facilitate breathing.** Please review the following resources:
 - a. FREE MDRPI Prevention Posters. [Link here.](#)
 - b. 2019 International Guideline recommendations on positioning strategies and use of prophylactic dressings to prevent sacral pressure injuries. [Link here.](#)
4. **CMS has announced policy exceptions and extensions for quality reporting and data submission to provide relief for clinicians during the COVID-19 pandemic. The announcement includes provisions for provider, hospital and post-acute care (PAC) programs.** [Link here.](#)