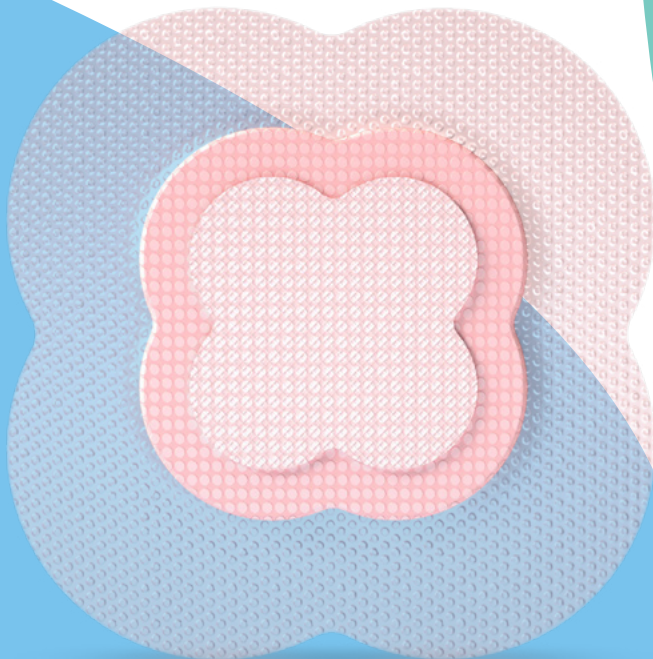


**+** A comprehensive guide to using  
**ALLEVYN<sup>◇</sup>** Dressings to prevent  
pressure injuries in at-risk  
hospital patients

**Smith+Nephew**

**ALLEVYN<sup>◇</sup> LIFE**  
Foam Dressing

**ALLEVYN<sup>◇</sup>**  
**GENTLE BORDER**  
Foam Dressing



Helping you get **CLOSER TO ZERO<sup>◇</sup>**  
pressure injuries.<sup>1,2</sup>

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# Understanding the impact of pressure injuries

1 out of 10 adults

are affected by hospital-acquired pressure injuries (HAPIs)<sup>3</sup>

Patients with HAPIs in the US:

- Cost an additional  
**\$21,784<sup>4</sup>**
- Spend an extra  
**9.5 days**  
in hospital<sup>4</sup>
- Have high readmission rates within  
**30 to 180 days**  
of discharge<sup>4</sup> compared to patients without HAPIs
- Estimated cost to the Australian healthcare system:  
**\$983 million** (2012/2013)
- Lost bed days in Australian hospitals:  
**524,661** (equivalent to \$819 million)
- Total cost:  
**\$1.8 billion** annually



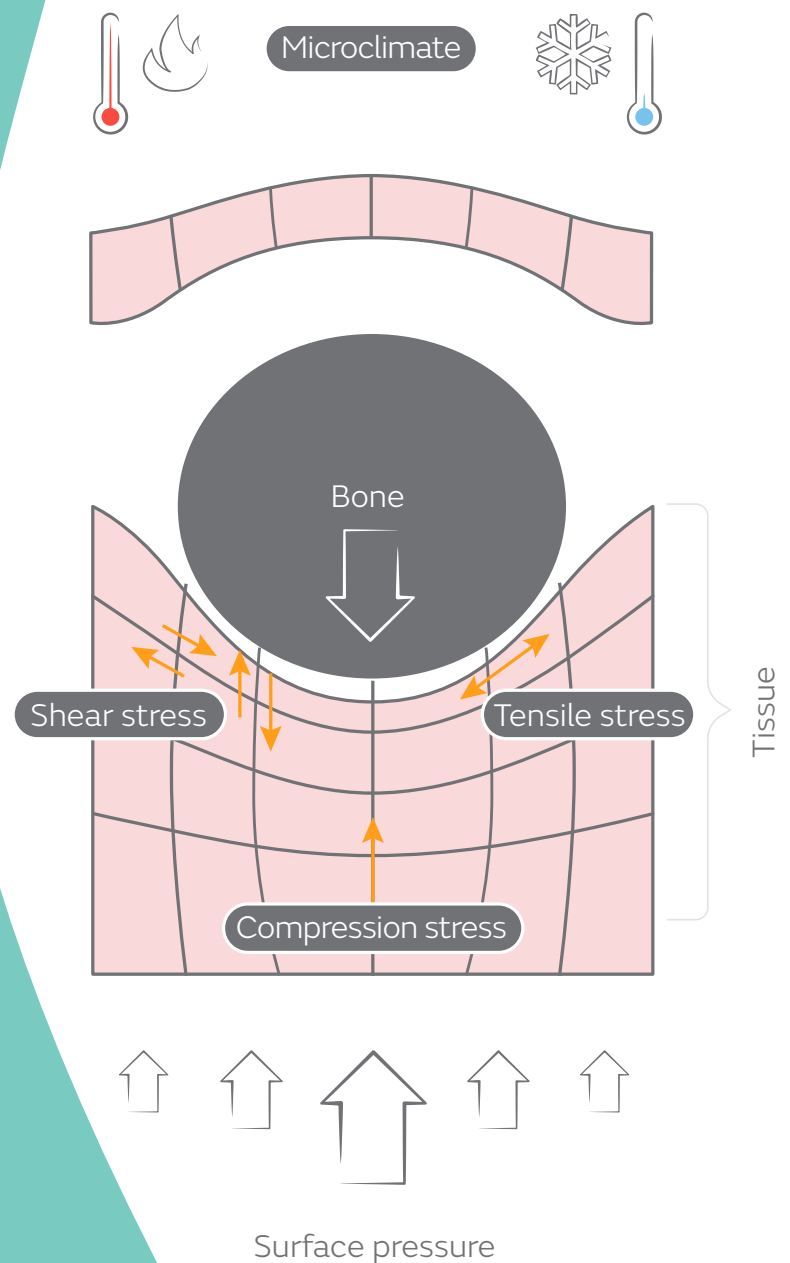
HAPI complications can be life threatening,<sup>4</sup> painful and distressing,<sup>5</sup> impacting patients, their family, caregivers and frontline staff<sup>3</sup>

# How pressure injuries develop

A pressure injury is defined as localized skin/underlying tissue damage as a result of pressure or pressure in combination with shear. Pressure injuries usually occur over a bony prominence or related to medical device use<sup>6,7</sup>

**Factors contributing to pressure injury onset include:**<sup>6,7</sup>

- Pressure
- Friction
- Shear
- Microclimate



Pressure can distort or deform skin and soft tissues, which is even greater when pressure is applied over a bony prominence

# Choose a dressing designed for prevention

**Prophylactic dressings differ in quality. Considerations should include:<sup>6</sup>**

- Appropriate size and dressing design
- Ability to manage moisture
- Ease of application and removal
- Ability of the dressing to stay in place
- Ability to routinely lift the dressing for skin inspection
- Preferences, comfort and allergies of the at-risk individual
- Co-efficient of friction at the dressing interface
- Cost-effectiveness

Dressings should be used in conjunction with other preventive measures.

International guidelines recommends the use of foam dressings as part of a comprehensive pressure injury prevention program and should be applied as early as possible in the care pathway.<sup>6</sup>





# The ALLEVYN<sup>®</sup> LIFE difference

ALLEVYN LIFE Foam Dressing is an all-in-one dressing for wound management and pressure injury prevention<sup>1\*</sup>

## Unique five-layer construction redistributes pressure<sup>8†</sup>

**Breathable top film** with a bacterial and showerproof barrier,<sup>9-13</sup> as well as a low friction coefficient to reduce the generation of shear<sup>14†</sup>

**EXUMASK<sup>®</sup>** Discretion Layer

**Hyperabsorbent lock-away** layer with **EXULOCK<sup>®</sup>** Technology to help minimize leakage<sup>10,15,16</sup>

**Highly absorbent<sup>10,17</sup>** hydrocellular foam layer

The soft silicone adhesive wound contact layer balances **adherence and gentleness**, enabling the dressing to be **lifted and repositioned** to facilitate skin inspections, and helping to **minimize pain** during dressing changes<sup>13,18,19</sup>

Nearly  
**2X**  
longer wear time  
than other compared  
standard dressings<sup>20‡</sup>



Up to **5 days wear** on the sacrum  
Up to **7 days wear** on other locations<sup>9,13,19</sup>

\*As part of a comprehensive pressure injury intervention protocol  
†As demonstrated in laboratory testing  
‡n=37; dressing retention was 1.92 longer  
§n=118

**Available in a wide range of shapes and sizes**, helping to reduce complexity in dressing choices. ALLEVYN LIFE Dressings are conformable<sup>15,21</sup> and comfortable.<sup>15,22</sup> **92% of HCPs would recommend ALLEVYN LIFE Dressings** within their healthcare organization.<sup>23,§</sup>

# Performance under pressure

Compared to standard preventive care alone, ALLEVYN<sup>®</sup> LIFE Dressing has been shown to:

Reduce incidence of sacral pressure injuries by up to

**71%**<sup>1</sup>

Produce per-patient estimated cost savings between

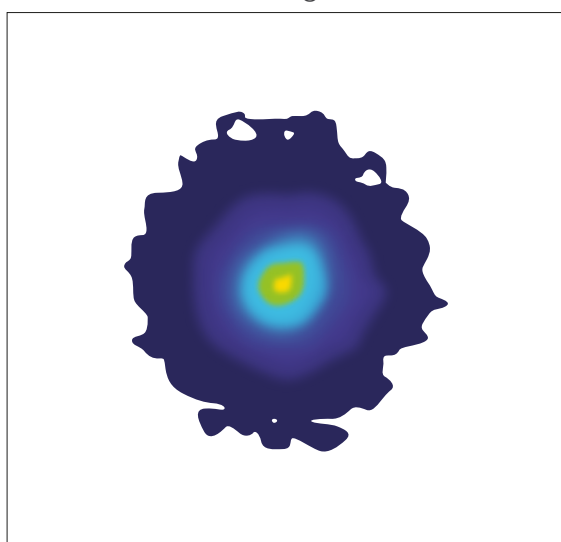
**38% to 69%**<sup>24</sup>

## Redistributes pressure more than leading competitors.<sup>8\*</sup>

Pressure can deform skin and soft tissues, especially over a bony prominence. Pressure injuries may occur both with short durations of high levels of pressure, and with long durations of lower levels of pressure.<sup>6</sup>

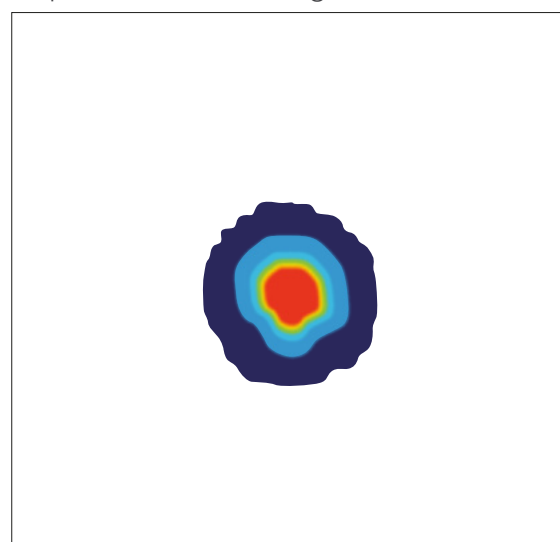
ALLEVYN LIFE Dressings significantly spread the pressure over a greater contact area, and showed lower average and peak pressures when compared to other foam dressings.<sup>8\*</sup>

### ALLEVYN<sup>®</sup> LIFE Dressing



Pressure redistribution wound contact side  
Average pressure: 71mmHg. Contact area: 18.4cm<sup>2</sup>  
Mean peak pressure: 552mmHg  
Tested on dry dressings using a 2.1kg weight

### Mepilex<sup>™</sup> Border dressing



Pressure redistribution wound contact side  
Average pressure: >178mmHg. Contact area: 6.6cm<sup>2</sup>  
Mean peak pressure: >827mmHg  
Tested on dry dressings using a 2.1kg weight

Pressure mapping is a demonstration measuring only pressure and does not replace the need for clinical evidence of effectiveness.

\*As demonstrated in laboratory testing, p<0.001

# ALLEVYN<sup>®</sup> LIFE Dressings work with a variety of medical devices including:



**Cervical collar (front)**

**Area at risk:** chin, jaw, clavical, occiput



**Multi-podus boot**

**Area at risk:** top/bottom foot, heel, calf



**Cervical collar (back)**

**Area at risk:** spine, shoulder blades



**Foot pump**

**Area at risk:** achilles, top/bottom foot



**Cervical collar (back)**

**Area at risk:** occiput



**Sequential compression device (SCD)**

**Area at risk:** lateral anterior ankle, achilles, top of foot



**Brace**

**Area at risk:** hand



ALLEVYN LIFE Dressings offer benefits in a variety of hospital settings. See how it can help in the:

Available in **three unique designs and multiple sizes** to fit your pressure injury prevention and/or wound management needs.



ALLEVYN LIFE  
Dressing



ALLEVYN LIFE  
Sacrum Dressing



ALLEVYN LIFE  
Heel Dressing



# ALLEVYN<sup>®</sup> GENTLE BORDER Foam Dressings

A versatile dressing to protect skin  
under medical devices

ALLEVYN GENTLE BORDER Dressings are versatile, conformable and easy to cut,<sup>25-29\*</sup> making it ideal to protect skin under medical-devices. The multi-way stretch helps application on awkward areas and joints.<sup>25-27,29</sup>

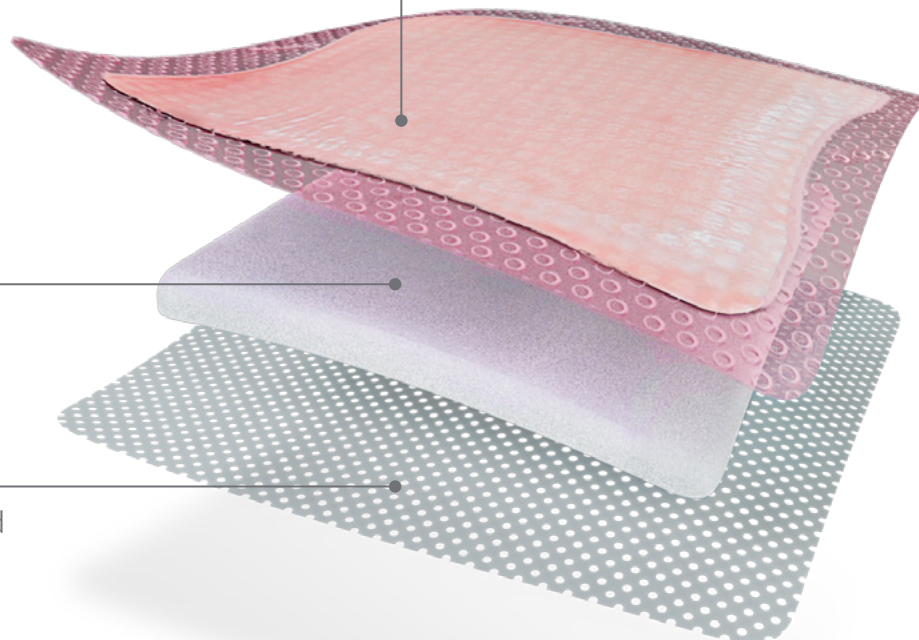
## Breathable top film<sup>26,27</sup>

allows evaporation of fluid.  
The top layer is showerproof<sup>30</sup>  
and has a bacterial barrier<sup>31</sup>

## Highly absorbent<sup>26,27</sup> foam layer

## Gentle silicone adhesive<sup>25</sup>

allows the dressing to be repositioned  
upon initial application<sup>32</sup> and suitable  
for use on fragile and sensitive skin<sup>29</sup>



\*Cutting will compromise the bacterial barrier properties of the dressing. Always use an aseptic technique. Ensure any exposed foam areas are covered with an appropriate film dressing taking care not to cover the entire dressing

# ALLEVYN<sup>®</sup> GENTLE BORDER

## Dressings work with a variety of medical devices

One in three pressure injuries in hospitalised adult patients are related to medical devices<sup>33</sup>

Medical-device related pressure injuries are more commonly associated with devices such as endotracheal and nasogastric tubes, oxygen tubing, non-invasive ventilation masks (CPAP/ BiPAP), urinary catheters among others



**Cervical collar (front)**

**Area at risk:** chin, jaw, clavicle, occiput



**Cervical collar (back)**

**Area at risk:** occiput



**Nasogastric tubes/(hi flo) nasal cannulas**

**Area at risk:** nose, upper lip, cheek, ear



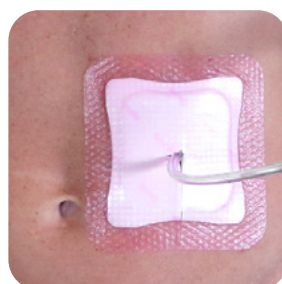
**Trach flange**

**Area at risk:** neck



**Non-invasive positive pressure ventilation (NIPPV)/CPAP**

**Area at risk:** forehead, nose, cheek, chin



**Gastric tube**

**Area at risk:** stomach





### Multi-podus boot

**Area at risk:** top/bottom foot, heel, calf



### Brace

**Area at risk:** hand



### Multi-podus boot

**Area at risk:** top/bottom foot, heel, calf



### Sequential compression device (SCD)

**Area at risk:** lateral anterior ankle, achilles, top of foot



ALLEVYN GENTLE BORDER Dressings offer benefits in a variety of hospital settings. See how it can help in the:



ALLEVYN  
GENTLE BORDER  
Rectangle Dressing



ALLEVYN  
GENTLE BORDER  
Square Dressing



ALLEVYN  
GENTLE BORDER  
Sacrum Dressing



ALLEVYN  
GENTLE BORDER  
Heel Dressing



ALLEVYN  
GENTLE BORDER  
Multiuse Dressing

Available in **a wide range of shapes and sizes** to fit your pressure injury prevention and/or wound management needs.

# Common pressure injury risk factors for ICU patients<sup>6,34</sup>

## Know these additional risk factors

1. Age and skin status
2. Length of stay
3. Immobility or limited mobility
4. Vasopressor use
5. Severity of illness
6. Acute physiology and chronic health evaluation (APACHE II) score
7. Mechanical ventilation
8. Presence of a medical device



## Follow these guidelines to help protect patients from pressure injuries<sup>6,34</sup>

- Identify at-risk patients<sup>6,34</sup>
  - The Braden score - most widely used risk assessment tool, is made up of six subscale categories. The lower the score, the greater the risk. Individuals are considered at risk with a score of 18 or less.
  - Other risk assessment scales include Norton and Waterlow scores
- Inspect skin thoroughly and often
- Adhere to your institution's pressure injury prevention guidelines
- Appropriately document your efforts
- Work together to streamline prevention processes
- Use a soft silicone multi-layered foam dressing to protect the skin of individuals at risk for pressure injuries—continue to implement other preventive measures when using dressings

## Did you know?



Nearly

# 60%

of pressure injuries are acquired in the ICU<sup>35</sup>

# 1 in 3

pressure injuries in hospitalized adult patients are related to medical devices<sup>33</sup>

See how ALLEVYN® LIFE Dressings can work with a variety of medical devices

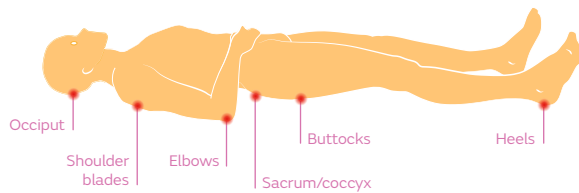
See how ALLEVYN® GENTLE BORDER Dressings can work with a variety of medical devices

# Common points of pressure<sup>6</sup>

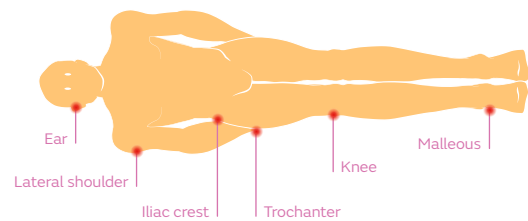
## Most common locations:

- Sacrum
- Buttocks
- Occiput
- Back
- Heels
- Elbows

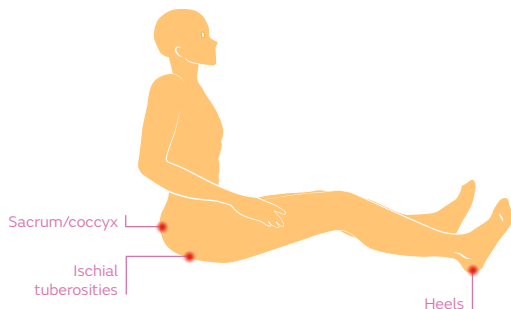
### Supine position



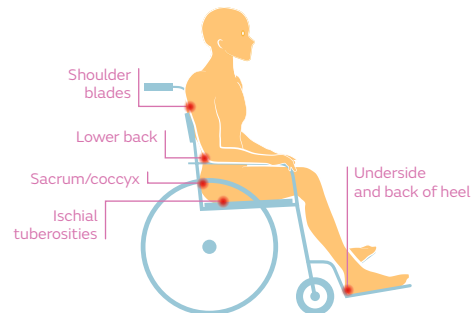
### Lateral position



### Sitting position



### Wheelchair position



## Protection against device-related injuries<sup>33</sup>

Device	Area at risk
(NIPPV) Non-invasive positive pressure ventilation/BIPAP	Forehead, nose, cheeks
Nasotracheal tubes/nasal cannulas	Nose, cheeks, ears
Wrist brace	Hands
Nasal cannula/oximetry probe	Ears
Cervical collar	Chin, clavicle

# Common pressure injury risk factors for OR patients<sup>6,36</sup>

## Know these additional risk factors

1. **Duration of time prior to surgery** - Individuals who were immobile and had a delay in surgery of more than 12 hours were 1.6-1.7 times more likely to develop a PI<sup>6</sup>
2. **Duration of surgery.** A procedure lasting longer than 3 hours
3. **American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) physical status classification** - ASA score of III or IV were more than four times more likely to develop a pressure injury
4. **Other surgical factors** - anesthesia type, no. of surgeries, positioning



Follow these guidelines to protect patients from pressure injuries<sup>6,36-38</sup>

## Use validated screening tools to identify at-risk patients<sup>37,38</sup>

- **Use Scott Triggers to identify patients at high risk<sup>37</sup> (two or more of the following)**
  - Age greater than 62 years
  - 1. Serum albumin < 3.5 g/dL
  - 2. ASA Score ≥3
  - 3. Anticipated time in the OR >3 hours (180 minutes)
- **Use the Munroe Tool to determine the patient's risk throughout the perioperative period<sup>38</sup>**
  - 6 pre-operative risk factors
  - 7 intra-operative risk factors
  - 2 post-operative (PACU) risk factors
  - Score of 1-3 for each
  - Calculations and interpretation of scores provided on the tool
- Adhere to your facility's pressure injury prevention guidelines
- Perform a thorough assessment of skin condition before, during and after surgery
- Appropriately document your efforts
- Work together to streamline processes related to prevention
- Use a soft silicone multi-layered foam dressing to protect the skin of individuals at risk for pressure injuries—continue to implement other preventive measures when using dressings

Did you know?



**45%**

of healthcare-acquired pressure injuries occur in surgical settings<sup>6,36</sup>

**48%**

increase in risk of PI development with each additional hour beyond the first 60 minutes<sup>36</sup>

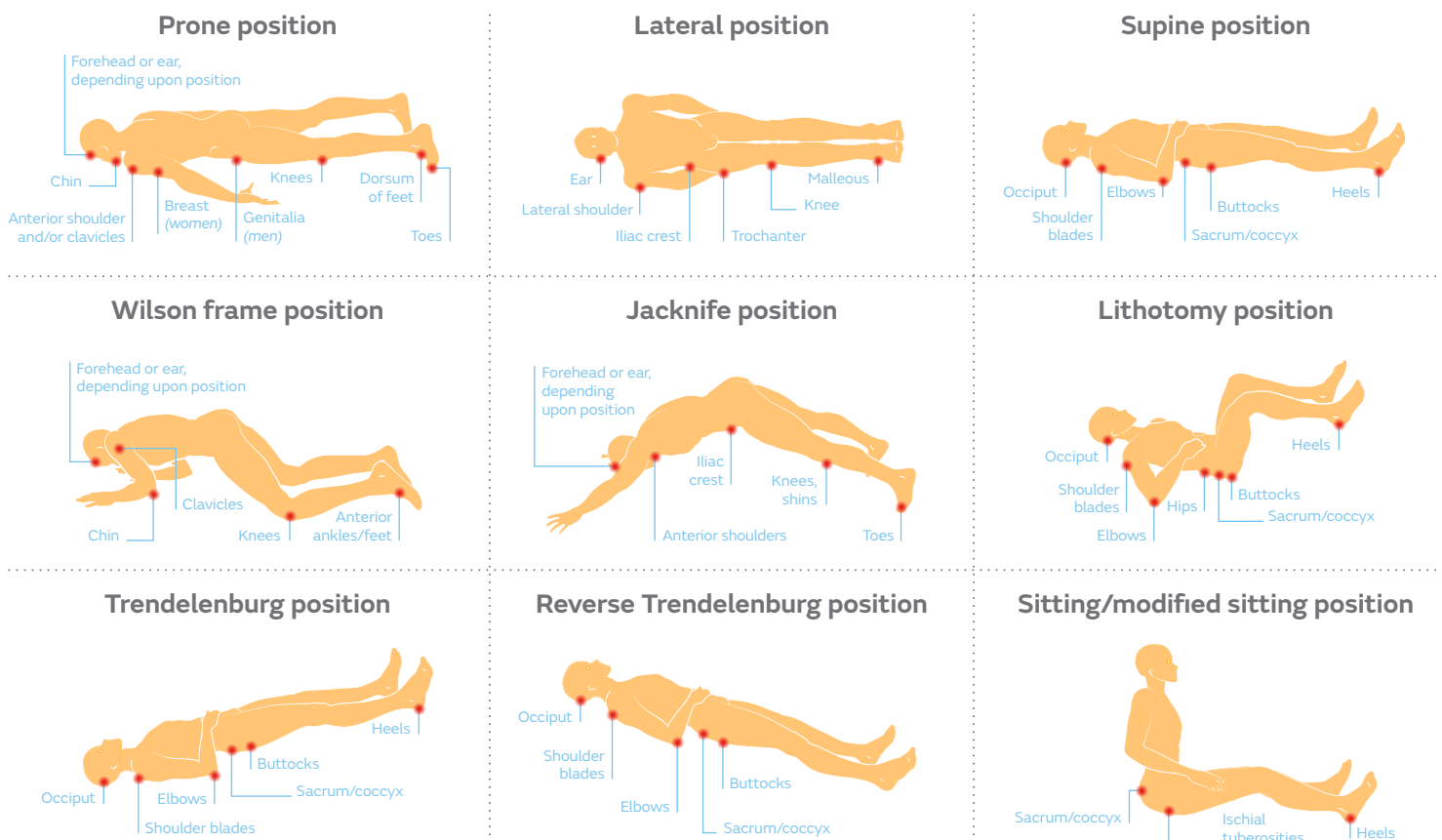
See how ALLEVYN® LIFE Dressings can work with a variety of medical devices

See how ALLEVYN® GENTLE BORDER Dressings can work with a variety of medical devices



# Common points of pressure<sup>6,39</sup>

Pressure injuries can appear within 48 to 72 hours after surgery.



Most common locations of pressure injuries:<sup>17</sup> • Ischium (28%) • Sacrum (17-27%) • Trochanter (12-19%) • Heel (9-18%)

## Protection against device-related injuries<sup>33,39</sup>

Device	Area at risk
(NIPPV) Non-invasive positive pressure ventilation/BIPAP	Forehead, nose, cheeks
Nasotracheal tubes/nasal cannulas	Nose, cheeks, ears
Wrist brace	Hands
Nasal cannula/oximetry probe	Ears
Cervical collar	Chin, clavicle
Splint	Heels
Straps	Ankles, arms, hips, etc.
Backboard	Occiput, shoulders, back

# Common pressure injury risk factors for ED patients<sup>6,40-42</sup>

## Know these additional risk factors

1. Advanced age
2. Dehydration and poor nutrition
3. Moist skin
4. Braden score
5. Poor sensory reception
6. Comorbid conditions (diabetes, pulmonary disease)
7. Use of medical devices (e.g. cervical collar)
8. Poorly padded ED equipment and restrictive positioning
9. Prolonged immobilization
10. Head-of-bed elevation



## Follow these guidelines to help protect patients from pressure injuries<sup>6,42</sup>

- Timeliness is essential – pressure injuries can develop in as little as two hours
- Identify patients at high risk using
  - The Norton Scale (score <14)
  - The Braden Scale (score <18)
  - Other risk-assessment tools
- Inspect skin thoroughly and often
- Application of a prophylactic dressing should be initiated as early as possible in the care pathway, i.e. *in the Emergency Room*
- Adhere to your institution's pressure injury prevention guidelines
- Appropriately document your efforts
- Work together to streamline prevention processes
- Use a soft silicone multi-layered foam dressing to protect the skin of individuals at risk for pressure injuries—continue to implement other preventive measures when using dressings

## Did you know?



Nearly

# 24%

Emergency Department (ED) patients are over 60 years old, with multiple comorbidities and medical illnesses<sup>40</sup>

# 99.2%

of patients who developed a pressure injury were in the ED for more than two hours<sup>41</sup>

See how ALLEVYN® LIFE Dressings can work with a variety of medical devices

See how ALLEVYN® GENTLE BORDER Dressings can work with a variety of medical devices

# Common points of pressure<sup>6,42</sup>

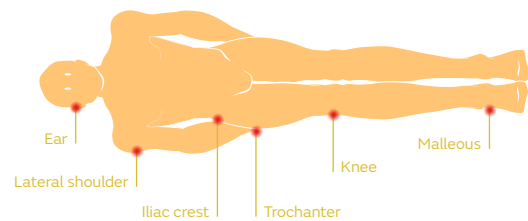
## Most common locations<sup>6</sup>

- Sacrum
- Buttocks
- Occiput
- Back
- Heels
- Elbows

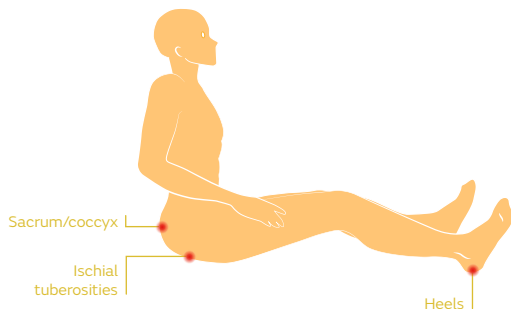
### Supine position



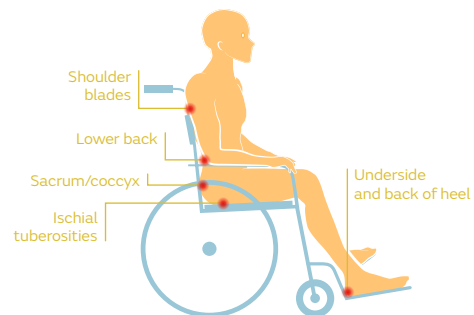
### Lateral position



### Sitting position



### Wheelchair position



## Most common risk areas related to medical device injuries<sup>33</sup>

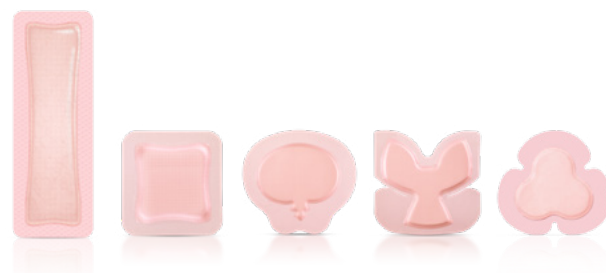
Device	Area at risk
Cervical collar	Chin, clavicles
Wrist brace	Hands
Splint	Heels
Wraps	Elbows
Straps	Ankles
Backboard	Occiput, shoulders, back

# Ordering information



Code	Description	Qty
<b>ALLEVYN® LIFE Dressings</b>		
66801067	10.3cm x 10.3cm	10
66801068	12.9cm x 12.9cm	10
66801069	15.4cm x 15.4cm	10
66801070	21cm x 21cm	10
66801304	Heel 25cm x 25cm	5
66801306	Small Sacrum 7.2cm x 17.5cm	10
66801307	Large Sacrum 21.6cm x 23cm	10

\*Also available as **ALLEVYN® Ag GENTLE BORDER Antimicrobial Foam Dressing**



Code	Description	Qty
<b>ALLEVYN® GENTLE BORDER Dressings</b>		
66800269*	7.5cm x 7.5cm*	10
66800270*	10cm x 10cm*	10
66800900	10cm x 20cm	10
66800264	10cm x 25cm	10
66800265	10cm x 30cm	10
66800272*	12.5cm x 12.5cm*	10
66800975	15cm x 15cm	10
66800273*	17.5cm x 17.5cm*	10
66800506	Heel 23cm x 23.2cm	5
66800897	Small Sacrum 16.8cm x 17.1cm	6
66800898	Small Sacrum 16.8cm x 17.1cm	10
66801031	Large Sacrum 21.6cm x 23cm	10
66800959	Multisite 17.1cm x 17.9cm	10

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