

Category 3 and 4 Pressure Ulcers meeting Safeguarding criteria

- Not all category 3 and 4 pressure ulcers will need to be raised as a safeguarding concern.
- All category 3 and 4 pressure ulcers to have Datix form completed and safeguarding team copied into the Datix so that this can be an initial point of triage/information sharing
- Category 3 and 4 ulcers that have developed due to patient refusal of care/appropriate pressure relieving equipment – this needs to be clearly documented in their clinical notes/careplans to evidence reasons for decline in skin integrity due to their refusal
- Does the patient have capacity to make an informed decision to refuse? If capacity is unclear then a formal capacity assessment will need to be completed
- Is the patient on an end of life pathway? Despite all appropriate care given category 3 or 4 ulcers may develop. Again documentation/careplans to be very clear on the care given because in some cases the ulcers cannot be prevented
- If any pressure ulcer, even category 1 and 2 have developed as a result of omissions in care, then this will meet the threshold for a safeguarding concern to be raised
- If in any doubt – contact the safeguarding team via the Duty line [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Mon-Fri 0900-1700