

**TOPIC: INCREASED AWARENESS OF THE NEED FOR PROPHYLACTIC FOAM DRESSINGS TO PREVENT PRESSURE ULCERS**

**SUBMITTED BY: National University Student Nurses' Association, Los Angeles, CA**

WHEREAS, an intensive care unit (ICU) conducted a prophylactic sacral dressing study on 41 high-risk patients over a three-month period which produced zero incidence of hospital-acquired pressure ulcers; and

WHEREAS, dressings should be used to enhance and supplement current pressure prevention strategies; and

WHEREAS, when application of multi-layered soft silicone foam dressings were applied to patients and were used in conjunction with current pressure ulcer prevention strategies, a 10% reduction in pressure ulcer incidence was observed; and

WHEREAS, nineteen patient criteria identifiers were established for prophylactic sacral dressing application, reducing hospital acquired pressure ulcer rates from 12.5% in 2009 to 7% in 2010; and

WHEREAS, during a six-month trial, it cost \$6,653 to apply silicone border foam dressings to 273 patients; and

WHEREAS, during one admission, the average cost for treating one hospital-acquired stage IV pressure ulcer was \$129,248; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) encourage its constituents to advocate for the awareness of the benefits of prophylactic foam dressings in preventing hospital-acquired pressure ulcers; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA encourage its constituents to promote research into the use of prophylactic foam dressings in preventing hospital-acquired pressure ulcers; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA educate its constituents that prophylactic foam dressings are one tool in preventing hospital-acquired pressure ulcers and should be used in conjunction with existing evidence-based practices; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA send a copy of this resolution to the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, the Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society, the Association for the Advancement of Wound Care, the American Board of Wound Management, the American Nurses Association, the National League for Nursing, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing, and all others deemed appropriate by the NSNA Board of Directors.