Collaring Pressure Ulcers

Heather Ditzler RN, BSN
Trauma Program Specialist
Penrose-St. Francis Health Services
Disclosure Statement

• I have no financial disclosures to report.
Background/Purpose

• Pressure ulcer = Never event

• October 2016 Identification of stage III and IV cervical collar medical device-related pressure ulcers (MDRPU)

• Developed a multidisciplinary collaborative approach to reduce incidence of cervical collar MDRPU
Project Design

• Adult trauma patients retrospective pre-post study

• Pre- study 1/1/15 to 10/31/16

• Post-study 11/1/16 to 8/31/18
Setting

- 522-bed acute care facility in Colorado Springs
- We are part of Centura Health, delivering care across 17 hospitals, two senior living communities, health neighborhoods, physician practices and clinics, home care and hospice services, and Flight For Life® Colorado in Colorado and western Kansas
- State Designated Level II Trauma Center
- ACS Verified Level 1 Trauma Center
- 2018 Trauma Patient Volume: 1323
- Top 3 MOIs: Falls(80%), MVC(13%), MCC(5%)
- Colorado Springs Population: 700,000
Sample

- Trauma patients ≥ 18 years with a coded cervical spine injury (CSI)
- 138 CSI patients in pre-study
- 198 CSI patients in post-study
Procedures

- Root cause analysis performed October 2016 identified opportunities for improvement
  
  - **Review** of cervical collars in collaboration with neurosurgical partners
  
  - **Education** provided to bedside staff related to cervical collars, skin/collar care, documentation
  
  - **Process changes** for bedside nurses and Trauma Quality Specialists
Results

• Cervical Collar MDRPU Incidence decreased from 1.45% to 0.5% in post study period (11/1/16-8/31/18)
• Last Cervical Collar MDRPU occurrence April 2017
Discussion and Implications

• Successfully reduced Cervical Collar MDRPU incidence after product analysis, process changes, and education
• Aspen® collars preferred by multidisciplinary Trauma Team
• Trauma registry to include cervical collar in procedures for ease of tracking
• TQS individual rounding on patients with cervical collars
• Cervical collars discussed in nursing report/Interdisciplinary rounds
• Teaching sheets dispersed to nursing units
References


Thank you!