

**Unit 4: Quality Patient Care**  
**Z-Chapter 22**  
**ONLINE CONTENT (1 H)**

**Unit Objectives:**

- Discuss the use of key indicators to measure performance. (2,3,7)\*
- Describe the nurse's role in quality and performance improvement. (3,4,7)\*
- Identify tools and processes for continuous quality improvement. (2,3)\*

\*Course Objectives

Quality Improvement Project

**Review chapter 22 and place your answers to the following questions in the Z-Chapter 22 dropbox by 0800 on 2/10/2025.**

Pick one topic from the following list:

1. Improving communication about individual patients during shift change. (shift report)
2. Preventing catheter related infections, urinary or central line.
3. Preventing falls and injuries for patients within healthcare facilities.
4. **Preventing pressure ulcers for patients within healthcare facilities.**
5. Reducing medication errors.
6. Reducing nurse turnover rates.

Answer the following questions as it relates to the topic pick from the list above.

1. Identify problem areas (or causes) associated with the topic and prioritize each identified problem area. (List at least 3)
  1. **Inadequate repositioning patients (top priority)**
  2. **Inadequate skin care**
  3. **Inadequate nutrition and hydration**
2. Develop solutions for each problem or cause listed. (Provide at least 3)
  - **Reposition every 2 hours with pillows and heel protectants to reduce the risk of pressure ulcers for patients who are immobile.**
  - **Keeping the skin dry from any moisture, sweat or urine. Making sure to put on a protectant on the coccyx.**
  - **Making sure the patient has adequate proteins, vitamins, and minerals is very important for skin health and healing. It is important for patients to get it through their meals or supplements.**
3. Identify why these problems might exist.

- These problems may exist because healthcare workers are not repositioning patients, not getting the skin completely dry when bathing the patients and are not making sure the patient is on a healthy diet and not getting the adequate vitamins that they need.
4. Provide a plan to improve and how to implement the plan. The plan should provide steps for improvement. The implementation should provide a timeline.
    1. First Identify common risk factors leading to pressure ulcers
    2. Educate staff with knowledge and skills to prevent pressure ulcers-
    3. Enhance skin care and protocols
    4. Ensure each patient has an adequate diet
    5. Involve specialized wound care nurses that specifically treat wounds
    6. Then continue to monitor and make adjustments to prevent pressure ulcers monthly
    7. Finally get staff feedback and continuous evaluation monthly
  5. How will you monitor that your plan is effective?
    - By monthly audits, checking documentation, conducting spot checks to ensure accuracy in charting, daily skin assessments especially for the high-risk patients and including education and follow-up courses.

Please be prepared to share and discuss your answers in class.

*In order to receive full credit (1 H class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by the due date/time assigned. Any assignments not completed in its entirety by the assigned due date and time will result in missed class time.*