

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)
 - **Failing to thoroughly assess a patient's risk for developing pressure ulcers**
 - **Not implementing proper preventative measures like turning and repositioning**
 - **Neglecting to monitor skin integrity**
 - **Not providing appropriate wound care once a pressure ulcer has formed**
2. Develop solutions for each problem or cause listed. (Provide at least 3)
 - **Assess the patient thoroughly and identify the patients at risk using the Braden scale**
 - **Turn and reposition the patient Q2H and PRN**
 - **Assess skin integrity Q4H & PRN**
 - **Perform wound care when a pressure ulcer has formed Q4H & PRN**
3. Identify why these problems might exist.
 - **Patients who are bedridden or unable to reposition themselves**

- **Patients with reduced sensation**
 - **Patients with malnutrition**
 - **Patients who are incontinent**
 - **Friction and shear forces**
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.

A unit-based QI nurse will be assigned the responsibility to audit charts or to verify a procedure by direct observation to determine compliance with preventative pressure ulcer measures. Then nurses will be educated about the correct practice and preventive measures to be taken. The indicator is skin care and metric 1 includes the rate of high-risk patient, as defined by the Braden scale (<17) who have pressure ulcers within 2-4 days of admission. Metric 2 includes the rate of those patients with pressure ulcers who are stage 1, 2, 3, 4, unstageable, or suspected of having deep tissue injury.

5. How will you monitor that your plan is effective?
DMAIC- define, measure, analyze, improve, control

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.