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| SUBJECT: Determination of “Unavoidable Pressure Sore” | NO.  |
| PRACTICE GUIDELINES: Most pressure sores can be prevented, and Stage I pressure sores that do appear need not worsen under MOST circumstances. However, even the most vigilant nursing care may not prevent the development and worsening of ulcers in some very high-risk individuals. The following guidelines are to be utilized when determining unavoidability of post-admission sore.For each pressure sore which has been in-house acquired and determined unavoidable, the facility should be able to demonstrate that the resident had:* A skin assessment which identified the risk factors.
* An individualized preventive program developed specific to resident’s risk factors when the resident was identified at risk and the program was implemented on a consistent basis.
* A medical diagnosis which explicitly indicated a condition predisposing the development of the pressure sore; i.e. medical condition that no longer responds to available/prescribed treatment; severe peripheral vascular disease; cancer with radiation treatment; severe renal disease with dialysis; diabetes. (See Federal Regulation F320, “Guidelines for Surveyors” , for further listings).
* Nutritional status assessed and monitored by a health care professional. Interventions were taken to improve the nutritional status of the resident; i.e., increased protein/calories/vitamin C/Z, therapy; diet changes; hydration program. Advance directives must be considered, if applicable.
* Activity/Mobility level assessed and increased to the extent practicable to stimulate blood flow. Skin was kept clean and dry.
* All aspects of the individualized preventive program documented in the medical record.

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| Approved: | Effective Date: | Revision Date: | Change No.: | Page: 1 of 1 |