

# Stages of pressure ulcers

Pressure ulcer stage	Impact of MS-DRG	Description
I	Non-CC	Skin intact but with nonblanchable redness for more than one hour after relief of pressure
II	Non-CC	Blister or other break in the dermis with partial-thickness loss of dermis with or without infection
III	MCC	Full-thickness tissue loss; subcutaneous fat may be visible; destruction extends into the muscle with or without infection
IV	MCC	Full-thickness skin loss with involvement of bone, tendon, or joint, with or without infection. Often includes undermining or tunneling
Unstageable	Non-CC	Full-thickness tissue loss in which the base of the ulcer is covered by slough and/or eschar in the wound bed
Suspected deep tissue injury	Not reported	Purple or maroon localized area of discolored skin or blood-filled blister due to damage of underlying tissue from pressure and/or shear

Source: The National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Board.