

# WMER

## QI 1192 Pressure Ulcer Risk Management & Prevention in CYP Physiotherapy & Occupational Therapy Services

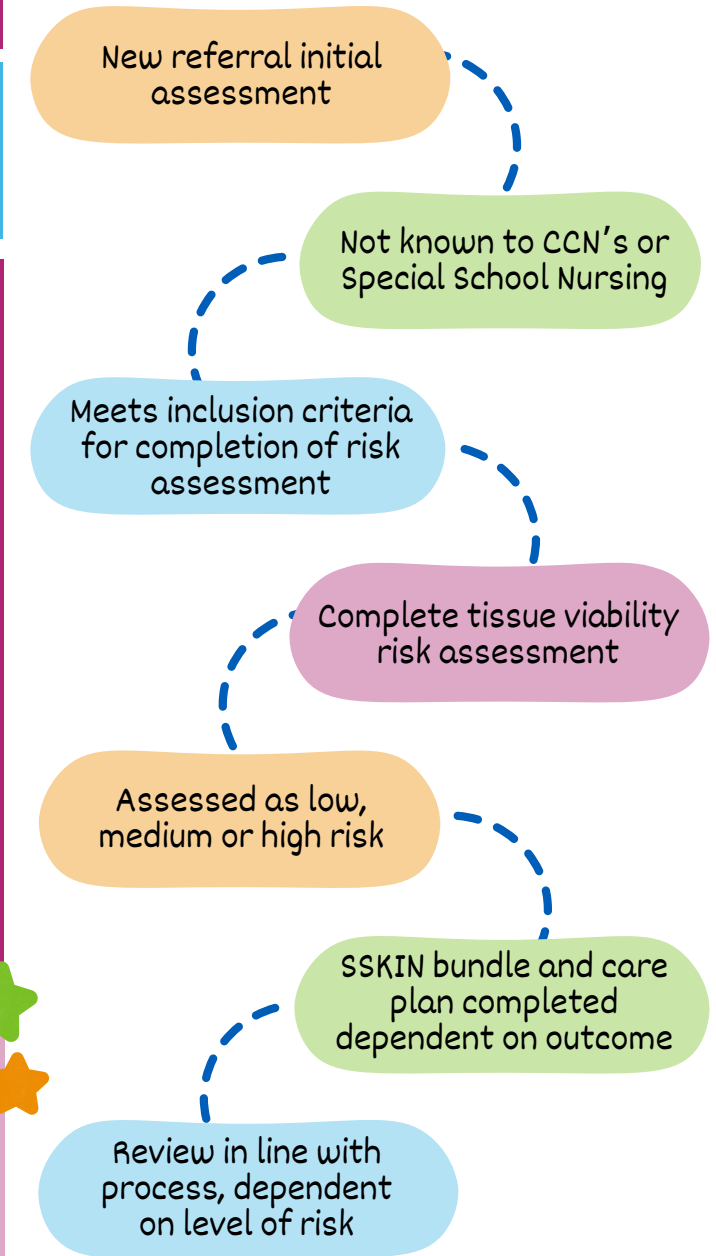
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# QI-1192 Pressure Ulcer Risk Management & Prevention in CYP Physiotherapy & Occupational Therapy Services

**Project Lead:** Aimee Strang, Clinical Service Lead for Children's Physiotherapy



## New Tissue Viability Pathway:



**Project Aim:** To review current service provision and staff understanding of tissue viability. To implement a service process regarding management of skin integrity and establish agreed escalation routes.

## Rationale:

There was no agreed process within Children's Therapies regarding management of skin integrity which led to inequity in service delivery between therapists. There was limited knowledge within the team regarding pressure care management and no training offer. Children who do not sit on the CCN's caseload, but may be at risk of developing pressure ulcers were not identified and therefore not receiving advice or risk assessments regarding management of skin integrity.

**Tissue Viability**  
The prevention of pressure ulcers and pressure care.  
**Skin Integrity**  
The health of the skin. An issue might mean the skin is damaged, vulnerable to injury or unable to heal normally.

**TVN**  
Tissue Viability Nurse

**CCN**  
Community Children's Nurse

An NHS approved approach to preventing pressure ulcers;  
**Surface** Make sure patients have the right support.  
**skin** Inspection Check it isn't discoloured or sore.  
**Keep Moving** Change position frequently.  
**Incontinence** Ensure skin is kept clean and dry.  
**Nutrition** Eat healthily and drink often.



## Staff Feedback: Assessment of staff knowledge of Tissue Viability and Pressure Ulcer Prevention in June 2023 vs September 2024.

Question	2023		2024		↑ ↓ ↔
	Fair	Good	Fair	Good	
How would you rate your current knowledge around tissue viability/pressure ulcer prevention and management?	10/11 (91%)	1/11 (9%)	4/10 (40%)	6/10 (60%)	↑
Do you routinely ask Children & Young People on your caseload about the condition of their skin?	Yes		Yes		↑ ↓ ↔
	1/11 (9%)		9/10 (90%)		↑
Do you know how to check the condition of skin?	1/11 (9%)		10/10 (100%)		↑
Do you know the escalation process if a Child or Young Person and their family report an area of skin breakdown?	2/11 (20%)		9/10 (90%)		↑

\*For analysis purposes, those that answered 'Excellent' have been included in 'Good' results and those that answered 'Sometimes' have been included in 'Yes' results.

90% of staff now feel confident in identifying, assessing and escalating Tissue Viability issues.

## Areas of Focus:

- CCN & TVN process and criteria for referrals.
- Review of Trust policy to identify area of need and recognised responsibility of therapists.
- Review of NICE clinical guideline CG179.
- Variability in staff knowledge leading to inconsistencies in advice & clinical judgement.
- Access to tissue viability training.
- Data around development of pressure areas for children / young people known to the service.

## QI Tools Used:

- Project Charter
- Process Mapping
- Clinical Audit
- Gap Analysis
- Staff Survey



## Outcomes:

- A local standard operating process (SOP) has been established for Children's Physio & OT.
- The CYP risk assessment tool, care plan and SSKIN bundle has been modified to make it more relevant to Children's Physio & OT.
- A competency framework has been created with a plan for ongoing review of competencies.
- Pressure areas are now being formally reported to gather data and enhance understanding of issues / resources needed. 7 incidents were raised in 2023 compared to 1 in 2022. 5 incidents have been reported in 2024 (Jan - Oct data).

## Next Steps:

- Children's Physio to join the CCN audit on TV in 2025.
- Continue to review competencies within the service.
- Continue to monitor the pathway in conjunction with the CCN Lead as a result from staff feedback.
- Continue to liaise with CCN Lead on Tissue Viability pathway and process (with the goal of having a joint pathway/process across Nursing and Physical Health Therapies (PT and OT).

