

Background

Older people living in care homes are some of the most vulnerable people in society and have a high risk of developing pressure ulcers. Pressure ulcers are an unwanted complication of illness, severe physical disability or increasing frailty¹.

Following the announcement of an ambitious aim to reduce pressure ulcers across all care settings by 50% at the NHSScotland event in June 2015, SPSP has been working with Scottish Care and the Care Inspectorate to develop a:

Reducing Pressure Ulcers in Care Homes Improvement Programme

This improvement programme will develop and test a range of approaches to achieve this ambitious but important aim. This collaboration combines the expertise of SPSP in improving safety with the expertise and links of Scottish Care and the Care Inspectorate in the care home sector.

More information about the organisations supporting the Reducing Pressure Ulcers in Care Homes Improvement Programme is provided next.

The Improvement Hub (ihub) and the Scottish Patient Safety Programme

The Improvement Hub (ihub) is a resource to support organisations in Scotland to improve the quality of health and social care services. The ihub is part of Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

SPSP is now part of the ihub. SPSP is a unique national programme that aims to improve the safety of healthcare and reduce the level of harm experienced by people using healthcare services.

SPSP's improvement support that has currently been delivered within NHS care facilities will now broaden to wider settings of care and with this, the overall ambition of SPSP will focus on Outcome 7 of the National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes: **'People using health and social care services are safe from harm'**.

It is recognised that to deliver on the above, the need to develop strong and effective partnership working with a wide range of partners is key. It is also recognised that there is a need to adapt our work to the new context through prototyping aims, measures and change packages.

We will build on the programme's progress to reduce pressure ulcers within acute hospital settings and ongoing improvement activities currently being delivered within care homes.

¹ Dealey C.2012. Best Practice Guide Pressure Ulcers. British Geriatric Society. 2012.

Through a co-designed, owned and delivered approach working with Health and Social Care Partnerships, care homes and NHS boards, this improvement programme will support the development of those strong and effective partnerships.

The improvement programme will also be implemented with the support of Scottish Care and the Care Inspectorate.

Scottish Care

This organisation represents the largest group of independent social care providers across Scotland, delivering residential care, day care, care at home and housing support.

Scottish Care is committed to supporting a quality orientated, independent sector. Their aim is to create an environment in which care providers can continue to deliver and develop the high quality care that communities require and deserve. Their core strategy is to create the strongest possible alliance and collective voice to protect and promote the interests of all independent care sector providers in Scotland, and those who access independent sector care services.

Health and Social Care Partnerships across Scotland currently fund Local Integration Leads, managed by Scottish Care to support and represent the independent sector within each partnership. This will be a key role within the improvement programme, providing support to care homes and acting as an interface with the Health and Social Care Partnerships and wider stakeholders.

Care Inspectorate

The Care Inspectorate regulates and inspects care services in Scotland to make sure they meet the right standards. It also jointly inspects with other regulators to check how well different organisations in local areas work to support adults and children.

The role of the Care Inspectorate is to assure and protect everyone who uses these services and it works to ensure that everyone gets safe, high quality care that meets their needs.