Measuring Quality in Wound Care

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Who measures quality?

- PQRS
- NQF
- CMS
- AHRQ
- TJC
Why do we care about quality?

- 2-4% US population
- Costs - estimated $50 billion/yr
- Quality of life
- Pride
- Incentive pay
Parameters

- Healing rate
$$\hat{d}_i = \begin{cases} 
2 \frac{S_0}{p_0} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{S_{ERM}}{100}} \right) ; & 0 \leq t_i < T_{ERM} \\
2 \frac{S_0}{p_0} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{S_{ERM}}{100}} e^{-\frac{S_{ERM}}{2}(t_i - T_{ERM})} \right) ; & t_i \geq T_{ERM} 
\end{cases}$$
Wound Parameters

- Exudate
- Margins
- Tissue bed
- Pain
- Depth
- Size
- Stage
- Margins
- Patient age
- Co-morbidities
- Location
- Tissue quality
- Infection
- Periphery
- Color
- Pulses
- Pressure
- Duration
- Location
- Epidermal thickness
Misc. quality parameters

• Documenting method of off-loading at every visit in patients with diabetic foot ulcers.
• Prescribing a support surface for patients with stage III or IV pressure ulcers.
• Performing vascular screening in patients with chronic leg ulcers.
• Documenting venous compression at every visit in patients with venous stasis ulcers.
Additional Parameters

- Reduction in BMI
- Smoking cessation
- Hemoglobin A1c < 9.0%
- Serial debridement
Suggested Parameters

• Use of superficial swab culture technique in patients with skin ulcers (overuse measure).
• Use of wet to dry dressings in patients with skin ulcers (overuse measure).
Reality

- Wound care involves balancing a roulette wheel on a see-saw riding on a carousel
- Quality is what you make it - individual for each patient
- Call to arms - we need to define what comprises quality, before it is defined for us!!
References


https://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/20_RegistrationandAttestation.a...
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