Incontinence-associated dermatitis (IAD)

IAD is defined as “an inflammation of the skin that occurs when urine or stool comes into contact with perineal or perigenital skin.” IAD is also a major risk factor for pressure injuries. Skin damage from a pressure injury occurs from the inside out, but IAD starts on the surface and works inward. When the two occur together, the results can be devastating.

IAD prevalence

47% of hospital patients are incontinent and of those 46% had IAD

Compared to a patient who is not incontinent, the odds of an incontinent patient developing a pressure injury is:

- 22x more likely for a patient with fecal incontinence
- 38x more likely for a patient with impaired mobility and fecal incontinence
A 2015 two-phase evaluation of 200 patients at high-risk for developing IAD and HAPI found that in those who received an intervention that standardized incontinence cleanup with a barrier-impregnated cloth following each incontinent episode, none developed IAD or a HAPI.

References