

Online Resource 2. International pressure injury classification system

Classification developed by the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel and European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel [1, 2], and adopted in the Pan Pacific Region in 2012 [3].

Categories/Stages	Description
Category/Stage I Nonblanchable Erythema	Intact skin with non-blanchable redness of a localized area usually over a bony prominence. Darkly pigmented skin may not have visible blanching; its color may differ from the surrounding area.
Category/Stage II Partial Thickness Skin Loss	Partial thickness loss of dermis presenting as a shallow open ulcer with a red pink wound bed, without slough. May also present as an intact or open/ruptured serum-filled blister.
Category/Stage III Full Thickness Skin Loss	Full thickness tissue loss. Subcutaneous fat may be visible but bone, tendon or muscle are not exposed. Slough may be present but does not obscure the depth of tissue loss. May include undermining and tunneling.
Category/Stage IV Full Thickness Tissue Loss	Full thickness tissue loss with exposed bone, tendon or muscle. Slough or eschar may be present on some parts of the wound bed. Often include undermining and tunneling.
Unstageable Depth Unknown	Full thickness tissue loss in which the base of the ulcer is covered by slough (yellow, tan, gray, green or brown) and/or eschar (tan, brown or black) in the wound bed.
Suspected Deep Tissue Injury Depth Unknown	Purple or maroon localized area of discolored intact skin or blood-filled blister due to damage of underlying soft tissue from pressure and/or shear. The area may be preceded by tissue that is painful, firm, mushy, boggy, warmer or cooler as compared to adjacent tissue.

References

1. National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel, European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, and Pan Pacific Pressure Injury Alliance (2019) Prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers: Clinical practice guideline. Cambridge Media, Osborne Park, Australia
2. National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, and Pan Pacific Pressure Injury Alliance (2014) Prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers: Clinical practice guideline. Cambridge Media, Osborne Park, Australia
3. Australian Wound Management Association (2012) Pan Pacific Clinical Practice Guideline for the prevention and management of pressure injury. Cambridge Media, Osborne Park, WA