

Appendix A

Pressure Ulcers –Safeguarding Triggers for an individual with a pressure ulcer in any setting.

This table can be used to help determine if the identification of a pressure ulcer on an individual should result in a safeguarding referral. It can also be used by Adult Social Care staff to help with their decision making as to whether there is a need to investigate under the safeguarding adult procedures.

	Possibly not safeguarding at this stage	Possibly Safeguarding	Safeguarding referral
1. What is the severity of the pressure ulcer? (Grade)	Grade 1 or 2 pressure ulcer – care plan required.	Several Grade 2 pressure ulcers or Grade 3 or 4 pressure ulcers - consider question 2 below about mental capacity.	Grade 4 and other issues of significant concern Any pressure Grade 2,3,4 pressure ulcer assessed as avoidable
2. Does the individual have mental capacity and have they been compliant with treatment? Has a capacity assessment been completed?	Has capacity and has refused / declined treatment. Capacity assessment is recorded.	Does not have capacity or capacity has not been assessed -continue to question 3 below.	Assessed as NOT having capacity and treatment NOT provided.
3. Provider has completed pressure care assessment and care plan developed in a timely manner and care plan implemented? OR Concerns raised by unpaid carers	Documentation and equipment available to demonstrate full assessment completed, care plan developed and implemented. OR Evidence available to show concerns raised and support or advice sought – e.g. from GP, DN, SW	Documentation and equipment NOT fully available to demonstrate full assessment completed, care plan developed or implemented BUT general care regime (e.g. nutrition, hydration) not of concern - continue to question 4 below OR Evidence NOT CLEAR that concerns were raised or support or advice sought in a timely manner.	Little or no documentation available to demonstrate a full assessment has been completed, or care plan developed or implemented AND general care regime (e.g. nutrition, hydration) is of concern. OR No support or advice sought
4. This incident is part of a trend or pattern - there have been other similar incidents with this individual or others.	Evidence suggests this is an isolated incident. Continue observing individual but no further action required at this stage	There have been other similar incidents.	Evidence demonstrates this is part of a pattern or trend.
	NOT SAFEGUARDING	DISCUSS WITH MANAGER AND DOCUMENT DECISION AND ACTIONS	SAFEGUARDING REFERRAL AND DOCUMENT DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

IF IN DOUBT

- Discuss with senior manger
- Initiate Safeguarding Adults Procedures
- Record decisions and reasons