

ASSESSING COMMON SECONDARY CONDITIONS

Quick screening cues for providers

PRESSURE INJURY SCREENING

HOW TO SCREEN

- Assess if there is any redness to the sacral area or other bony prominences → Yes = positive screening
- Assess if their positioning is aligned (head, chest and pelvis stacked - no slouching or tipping to one side) → No = positive screening
- Assess wheelchair cushion for indentation or unevenness → Yes = positive screening
- Is patient incontinent → Yes = positive screening

RESULTS

GENERAL CLINICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Educate your patient or their caregiver to routinely inspect their skin and the importance of frequent repositioning in both the bed and wheelchair
- Consider a seating evaluation referral and pressure reducing surface for the bed or chair
- A nutrition referral. High protein food and nutritional supplements can reduce risk
- Barrier creams such as zinc oxide can protect skin from moisture associated skin damage
- Encourage frequent changing of briefs and/or the use of high absorption briefs