

MDS Alert

Reader Questions: Look to This Pressure Injury Assessment Tool

Question: I keep seeing references to the Braden Scale. What is that?

Vermont Subscriber



Answer: The Braden Scale for Predicting Pressure Sore Risk[©] is a screening tool for evaluating the risk of developing a pressure sore, also known as a pressure ulcer or pressure injury. The tool was designed by Barbara Braden and Nancy Bergstrom. The MDS mentions the Braden Scale on Section M (Skin Conditions), in reference to whether a resident has received a formal assessment of their pressure ulcer/injury risk (M0100). The tool uses a combination of risk factors (sensory perception, moisture, activity, mobility, nutrition, and friction and shear) and description to formulate a score; the higher the final score, the lower the risk of developing a pressure ulcer/injury.