



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

PRESSURE INJURY PREVENTION DAY

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, pressure injuries (bedsores) claim the lives of more than 60,000 people each year and cost the United States health care system more than \$11 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, pressure injuries develop when a large amount of pressure is applied to an area of the skin over a short period of time, or when less pressure is applied over a longer period; left untreated, pressure injuries can cause substantial pain and discomfort, and develop into ulcers that cause tissue necrosis; and

WHEREAS, pressure ulcers are largely preventable in nature; patients who are at risk of developing pressure ulcers and/or their caregivers can protect against these injuries through careful monitoring, cleaning, body movement, and the use of protective devices when applicable; and

WHEREAS, more than 3 million adults are affected by pressure ulcers each year; protection and prevention will reduce the high incidence of pressure injuries and ulcers, particularly for those who are confined to a bed or wheelchair; and

WHEREAS, the cost to treat pressure ulcers is up to 2.5 times greater than the cost to prevent them; prevention can reduce the financial burden to the state of North Carolina for unnecessary health care costs; and

WHEREAS, pressure ulcers acquired during hospitalization are among the eight conditions considered preventable by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; with pressure injury prevention planning, hospitals can reduce or eliminate the risk of patients developing ulcers; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages all citizens to recognize that pressure injuries are preventable, and participate in raising awareness to stop them from occurring;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 16, 2017, as “**PRESSURE INJURY PREVENTION DAY**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this thirteenth day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.