

Review

Pressure Ulcer Prevention — DVD and CD-ROM resource materials

BVS Training, London House, 271 King Street, Hammersmith W6 9LZ. Tel: 0845 644 2866; www.bvs.co.uk. Price: DVD £125.

Further to the release of the NICE guideline on pressure ulcer prevention in 2003 (www.nice.org.uk), this DVD — produced under the auspices of a well-respected practitioner/educator in the field of tissue viability — is both informative and accessible to the intended audience, unqualified carers. Patients and their relatives will also find it useful as an information resource. This is in line with the Department of Health benchmarking process, which started in 2002.

The DVD consists of six main sections, referred to as chapters, which follow a brief introduction to the subject matter. The chapters are:

- The skin

- How pressure ulcers develop
- Pressure ulcer risk factors
- Common sites for pressure ulcers
- Preventive care
- Pressure-relieving devices.

These can be accessed either as a whole or via a 'chapter' menu for ease of use.

The sequence of chapters is logical, and the information they contain highlights and reinforces many good practice points, which are equally well illustrated.

This approach, adopted throughout the DVD resource, reinforces many sound care points. These should further dispel some of the myths that continue to predominate around this topic.

The terminology used throughout is refreshingly current. At the end of each chapter the main points introduced are reviewed again one by one.

Although the slightly simplistic nature of the DVD could be criticised, especially as so many unqualified

staff are now undertaking training to gain NVQs, I firmly believe this package will be extremely useful.

It is ideal for that transient workforce — especially those within nursing homes, whose educational needs are often not catered for — and as a memory aid for all staff involved in the care of patients 'at risk' of pressure ulcer development.

The only irritation is the constant use of the term 'service users' for patients.

Nevertheless, I would be happy to recommend both the DVD and its accompanying CD-ROM of supporting materials to the target audience and feel that the package as a whole is useful and informative.

If used as a resource to a planned and ongoing update programme, the DVD and CD-ROM should serve to further enhance the care of vulnerable patients. This is one of the main aims of the NICE guidelines on pressure ulcer prevention, which appropriately are referred to at the end of the final chapter. ■

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