

# INSIDE

Summer 2008, Volume 22  
National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel  
the NPUAP

Get a wealth of helpful information about pressure ulcers and the work of NPUAP at [www.npuap.org](http://www.npuap.org)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### A Multi-prong Strategy to Combat Pressure Ulcers

Diane Langemo, PhD, RN, FAAN

The NPUAP remains actively involved promoting and advocating for pressure ulcer prevention and treatment, with the ultimate aims of preventing the occurrence and/or enhancing the quality of life for those individuals with a pressure ulcer. These activities are orchestrated by the Board, as well as the mission committees of Education, Research, and Public Policy.

The Public Policy Committee has been extremely active in monitoring and addressing national issues related to pressure ulcer prevention and treatment. NPUAP has shared comments with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on the area of pressure ulcers on the CARE document, "Preventable Hospital Acquired Conditions" (PUs), and competitive bidding for products related to PU treatment.

The NPUAP continues its work with the EPUAP on the development of the International Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Guidelines with a release goal of February 2009. Please check the NPUAP web site in the next few months for an opportunity to review and comment on the draft guidelines. The web site is [www.npuap.org](http://www.npuap.org).

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The NPUAP 11th Biennial Consensus and Best Practices Conference will be held February 27–28, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA (in the Washington, DC metro area). There will be two, two-day concurrent conferences: one focused on PU Best Practices and the other on Consensus for the PU Prevention and Treatment Guidelines. Please plan to attend to hear about the impact of the newly revised International Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Guidelines and PU Best Practices.

NPUAP will also be co-sponsoring two upcoming regional **PU Best Practice** conferences, November 20 in San Diego, CA and November 21 in Laredo, TX.

Visit the NPUAP website related to position statements on pressure ulcer prevention and treatment related activities. NPUAP's Shear Initiative is working on shear and friction measurement/testing methods while the ISO Lateral Support Surfaces Standards groups continue to work on developing testing standards for support surfaces.

*Diane Langemo, PhD, RN, FAAN*

Diane Langemo, PhD, RN, FAAN  
NPUAP President

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*The National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) serves as the authoritative voice for improved patient outcomes in pressure ulcer prevention and treatment through public policy, education and research.*

## NPUAP Is Moving!

Effective September 1, 2008, please address all of your correspondence to:

National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel

2300 N Street NW • Suite 710 • Washington DC 20037 • USA

Note: telephone, fax and email will remain the same.

## S3I News

The ISO/TC173/SC1 and WG's most recent meetings were held in Tokorozawa, Japan 24–30 May 08. The meetings, hosted by Japan Assistive Products Association (JASPA) and National Rehabilitation Center for Persons with Disabilities (NRCPD), were productive and encouraging. The topics, discussed as potential test methods, included Instrumented Indenter vs Pressure Mapping, Micro-Climate, Immersion, Thermodynamics, Pressure Redistribution, Horizontal Stiffness, Shear, Envelopment, and Perceptible Humidity. The need for a test method for envelopment of alternating pressure support surfaces was also discussed and proposed. The committees responded by voting to include alternating pressure as a characterization of support surface

test development. This meeting was very helpful in furthering our goal of developing standards and methods for testing and reporting.

The next meeting will be held September 15–17, 2008 in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, which will be a joint meeting with S3I and ISO committees and will include the work groups Immersion, Heat and Water Vapor, and Envelopment. The alternating pressure subgroup will meet in Berlin in conjunction with the ISO standards meeting.

The Seating work group, of WG11, will be meeting October 20–22, 2008 and the Mattress work group, also of WG11, will be meeting October 22–24, 2008. Anyone interested in attending may contact the Chairpersons: Dave Brienza (412) 586-6907, [dbrienza@pitt.edu](mailto:dbrienza@pitt.edu); or Evan Call (801) 296-0451, [ECall@ec-service.net](mailto:ECall@ec-service.net). ■

## NPUAP CORPORATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## Coloplast Corp.

Coloplast is a global healthcare company dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with specific medical needs. For over 50 years, our advances in the therapeutic areas of skin health, wound care management, ostomy, continence, and surgical urology consistently generate innovative products for the healthcare professionals and consumers.

As a new member to the NPUAP's Corporate Advisory Committee, Coloplast is proud to participate and support the goals of improving patient outcomes in pressure ulcer prevention and treatment here in the U.S.

Throughout the world, Coloplast strives to partner with authoritative bodies such as the NPUAP, as they address the debilitating and extremely costly issues posed by Pressure Ulcers. Whether the focus is on prevention or treatment, Coloplast offers a broad and differentiated portfolio of products designed to simplify protocols, improve compliance, and reduce complications. ■

Coloplast Corp.  
200 S. 6th St. Suite 900  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
[www.us.coloplast.com](http://www.us.coloplast.com)



MedaSTAT USA is privately owned national medical equipment based in Louisville, Kentucky. The company provides innovative therapeutic support surfaces, bariatric products, and negative pressure wound therapy (NWPT) across health care settings. The company's quality, consistency, and commitment to customer service have led to extraordinary and rapid growth across the United States. MedaSTAT conscientiously focuses on building and maintaining professional and business relationships through education, research activities and public policy opportunities. The major goal of MedaSTAT is to provide quality products and service at an affordable cost. Our executive management team has been assembled, based on their professional expertise and combined leadership abilities and knowledge of the industry.

MedaSTAT's strength is derived from their vision coupled with their creation of an environment that fosters creativity and promotes innovation. From smaller facilities to large long-term care conglomerates, we serve an expansive clientele with the care and attention to detail that all health care providers and patients deserve. MedaSTAT has experienced sustainable growth by providing our clients with unique software tracking tools, and offering outcome oriented, clinically effective products. The company is committed to consistency, service, and most importantly, providing effective solutions for patients who are most in need of compassionate and exceptional care. ■

## NPUAP'S Involvement in Public Policy

By

Catherine Ratliff, PhD, APRN-BC, CWOCA

Public Policy Chair

The NPUAP Public Policy Committee has been very busy this last quarter. In addition to the monthly conference calls to keep abreast of upcoming governmental policies related to pressure ulcers, the committee has written letters to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on Section II of the Proposed Rule, "Proposed Changes to Medicare Severity DRG (MS-DRG) Classifications and Relative Weights", Sub section F titled "Preventable Hospital Acquired Conditions, Including Infections" which includes pressure ulcers. We emphasized in the letter that in addition to the 4 stages of pressure ulcers that have been approved that they add codes for suspected deep tissue injury and unstageable pressure ulcers.

The committee has also written letters to the House Ways and Means Committee as well as the chair of the health subcommittee, Representative Pete Stark, on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding program and how that affects individuals with pressure ulcers.

NPUAP also has its scheduled meeting with CMS at the August Panel Meeting. NPUAP will be very involved with CMS in the writing of a guidance document to go along with the new proposed rule "Preventable Hospital Acquired Conditions" that will go into effect October, 2008. ■

## NPUAP Alums in the Spotlight!

By

Mary Ellen Posthauer

Alumni Representative

NPUAP alumni continue contributing their time and talent to advance the science of pressure ulcer care and treatment. This article spotlights the honors achievements of several alumni.

Elizabeth Ayello was co-chairman of the 3rd World Union of Wound Healing Societies held in Toronto June 4-8. Janet Cuddigan and Diane Langemo were captains of the Pressure Ulcer Stream of the meeting. Both alumni and panel members presented during the conference.

The 2008 WUWHS Lifetime Achievement Awards presented during the conference recognized individuals from around the world who have made significant contributions to the advancement of wound management. Their advances were made in one or more of the following areas: research, publishing, education, advocacy, and hands-on patient care. Barbara Braden, Evonne Fowler, Carrie Sussman and Thomas Stewart were recipients of this prestigious award.

Other alums that were recognized by their peers include Courtney Lyder who has been named Dean of Nursing at the University of California-Los Angeles. George Rodeheaver received the University of Virginia Patent Foundation 2008 Edlich-Henderson Inventor of the Year Award. John Feather has been elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Society on Aging, the highest elected volunteer office in the organization. Mary Ellen Posthauer received the 2008 Hall of Fame award at Purdue University for significant contributions to the field of foods and nutrition. ■

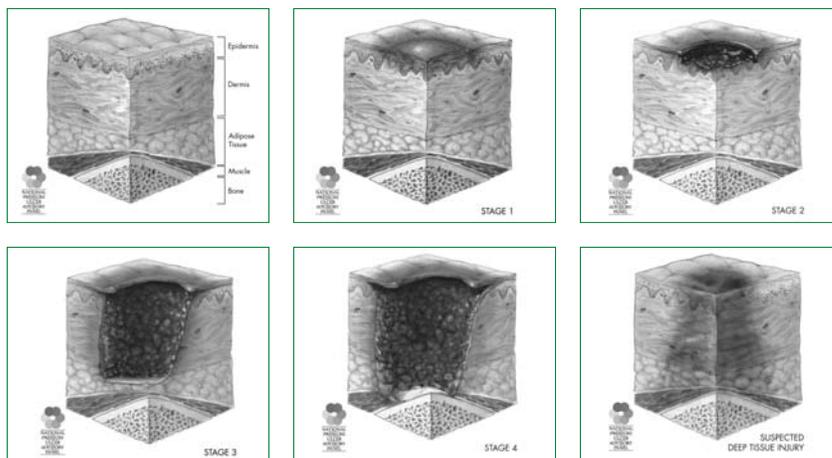
## New Drawings Illustrate NPUAP's Pressure Ulcer Staging System

The NPUAP has placed on its web site, [www.npuap.org](http://www.npuap.org), under the education section, drawings of the staging system including suspected deep tissue injury. These drawings may be downloaded and used for educating health care professionals on the staging system.

Each drawing has the NPUAP logo embedded, indicating that they are copyrighted by NPUAP.

We hope that the drawings are helpful and used widely by the health care community. ■

*The new NPUAP drawings illustrate normal tissue, pressure ulcer stages I through IV, and suspected DTI.*





NATIONAL  
PRESSURE  
ULCER  
ADVISORY  
PANEL

## NPUAP 11<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

**JOIN US IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL** for a two-day meeting with concurrent conferences addressing **BEST PRACTICE** and the release of **GLOBAL GUIDELINES FOR PRESSURE ULCER PREVENTION & TREATMENT**. Plan now to participate with international experts in the field of pressure ulcers!

### **NEW GLOBAL GUIDELINES:** Influencing Public Policy & Clinical Practice

**You can shape the future of pressure ulcer prevention and treatment globally.** Join NPUAP in discussing the challenges of implementing global pressure ulcer prevention and treatment guidelines across all practice settings, including pediatrics, palliative care, bariatrics, and critical care populations.

NPUAP offers unique opportunities to **Exhibit** and **Sponsor** activities before hundreds of high-level wound care attendees.



**FEBRUARY 27-28, 2009**

Arlington, VA (Washington, DC Area)

Hyatt Regency Crystal City

**REGISTER  
ONLINE!**  
[www.npuap.org](http://www.npuap.org)

**APPLICATION  
DEADLINE:**  
**DECEMBER 12  
2008**

### **EXHIBITOR & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES NOW AVAILABLE**

**EXHIBITORS & SPONSORS:** Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your latest products and services to the country's **most influential professionals in pressure ulcer care**. Only sixty exhibit spaces (10x10') will be available, and you may also select from a **wide range of sponsorship opportunities** to demonstrate your company's support for furthering research and development in the field of pressure ulcers.