Best Practices for Prevention of Medical Device-Related Pressure Ulcers in Critical Care

- **Choose** the correct size of medical device(s) to fit the individual
- **Cushion** and protect the skin with dressings in high-risk areas (e.g., nasal bridge)
- **Inspect** the skin in contact with device at least daily (if not medically contraindicated)
- **Avoid** placement of device(s) over sites of prior or existing pressure ulcer
- **Educate** staff on correct use of devices and prevention of skin breakdown
- **Be aware** of edema under device(s) and potential for skin breakdown
- **Confirm** that devices are not placed directly under an individual who is bedridden or immobile

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**ET Tube**
- Mucosal Pressure Ulcer

**Trach Ties**
- Unstageable

**Retention Sutures**
- Stage III

**NG Tube**
- Unstageable

**Oxygen Tubing**
- Stage II

**CPAP Mask**
- Unstageable

**O₂ Saturation Probe**
- Stage II

**Arterial Line Tubing**
- Stage II