



Wound
Ostomy and
Continence
Nurses
Society®

May 25, 2016

Mary Sieggreen, MSN, CNS, NP, CVN
National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel
1025 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW
Suite 500 East
Washington, DC 20007

Dear President Sieggreen:

On behalf of the Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses™ (WOCN®) Society Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to commend the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) for the work recently accomplished by the Staging Task Force. The WOCN Board of Directors is in full support of NPUAP's updated staging definitions and illustrations presented during the consensus meeting in Chicago.

WOCN supports universally recognized terminology and descriptors in the staging of pressure injuries and the importance of staging in the management of acute and chronic pressure injuries. The WOCN Board agreed to formulate a task force to develop a formal position statement in support of the new terminology and this will be announced during our annual member's business meeting at our annual conference in June. Finally, WOCN will send a formal communication to our members to inform them of the decision by our Board to embrace this new clinical terminology.

We understand this will be a work in progress over the next several years and as we produce new or updated educational content, we will work to incorporate the changes. We would appreciate knowing about any updates from CMS and the ICD-10 coding group you may get as you move forward with implementation of the new definitions.

Once again, congratulations on a successful consensus meeting and leading this change to advance the practice of wound care.

Sincerely,

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President

CC: WOCN Board of Directors

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