

July 22, 2010

**Results of Case Study using Sheep Wool to assist healing of pressure ulcer**

**CASE STUDY**

**OBJECTIVE:** Determine if 950g medical grade sheep wool can provide the pressure reduction/relief required to improve/heal stage 2 wound over low-thoracic spinous process.

**MEASUREMENT TOOL:** Pre-Study – Digital photo of wound; include measurements of size and physical description; completed by RN & OT. Post-Study – Re-do photo, measurements and description and compare to pre-study; completed by RN & OT.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Use 950 g sheep wool overlay on bed surface. No sheet on top. Resident should lie directly on surface of wool.
2. Use 950 g sheep wool pad on all chair backs that resident uses. E.g. in room, dining room, lounge areas, activity areas.

**MONITOR:** Rehabilitation Assistant will monitor adherence to procedures, Monday to Friday. RN & OT to complete post-study measurement.

**START DATE:** June 24, 2010.

**END DATE:** July 8, 2010.

Refer to Occupational Therapy with any questions/comments.

Sheep wool can be washed and dried in machines. Include with Personal Laundry.

**RESULTS**

**Pre-Study:** Wound #1 – Stage 1, 1cmx1cm

Wound #2 – Stage 2, 4.5cmx4.5cm, small amount discharge, no odour, non-blanchable center, 4 open areas (2 larger and 2 smaller).

**Post-Study:** Wound #1 – healed. Skin is pink, normal in appearance.

Wound #2 – Stage 2, 3cmx3.5cm, very small amount discharge, no odour, non-blanchable center, 2 pinpoint open areas, decreased redness.

**Summary:** *Definite improvement in this person's skin integrity after 14 days using 950g medical grade sheep wool on bed surface and chair backs to protect/heal pressure wounds.*

Sandra Stewart, BScOT  
Occupational Therapist