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31 August 2020

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Ewa Crunden and I am a doctoral researcher at the University of Southampton, working with Professor Lisette Schoonhoven and Dr Peter Worsley. I am carrying out a research study, which may be of interest to you. The project involves an **on-line international consensus study to establish a minimum data set and a reporting guideline for medical device-related pressure ulcers**.

As you are aware, treating pressure ulcers is costly and they are associated with many quality of care indicators. In recent years, it has become apparent that a significant proportion of hospital acquired pressure ulcers are associated with medical device use. However, in many practice settings medical-device related pressure ulcers (MDRPUs) are not routinely reported and we do not have explicit information on devices that cause patient harm. In the majority of cases reported data are not standardised, which negatively impacts on the possibility of national and international comparisons, and improvements in device design and user policy. To provide a high quality, safe patient care we need to be able to collect rigorous and consistent data, with associated evidence-based guideline.

You might be interested in expressing your opinions on what should be considered when reporting device related harm, and what might be the most efficient and effective way of doing so. If you meet two of the conditions below:

- You have 10 years' experience working within the domain of tissue viability.
- You are a healthcare professional working with medical devices.
- Your clinical practice included wound assessment and/or reporting within the last 2 years.
- You have research/publication track record on medical device-related pressure ulcers.

I would like to invite you to take part in this study. Be assured your participation is entirely voluntary. If you would like to know more, or would like to take part, please contact me directly via email: [eac1g14@soton.ac.uk](mailto:eac1g14@soton.ac.uk).

Yours faithfully,



Ewa Crunden