



LSAB Easy Guide to Protocol for Determining Neglect in the Development of a Pressure Ulcer

Pressure Ulcers – Safeguarding Triggers: Pathway 1

To determine if the identification of a pressure ulcer on an individual **receiving professional support** (in a care home, hospital or from domiciliary care or nursing agency care) should result in a safeguarding referral the following triggers should be considered.

IF IN DOUBT → Initiate Safeguarding Adults Procedures → Record decision and reasons for decision.

	Possibly NOT Safeguarding at this stage	Possibly Safeguarding	Definitely Safeguarding
1. What is the severity (category) of the pressure ulcer?	Category 2 pressure ulcer or below – care plan required	Several category 2 pressure ulcers/ category 3 to 4 pressure ulcers- consider question 2	Category 4 and other issues of significant concern
2. Does the individual have mental capacity and have they been compliant with treatment? Has a capacity assessment been completed?	Has capacity and declined treatment Capacity assessment is recorded.	Does not have capacity or capacity has not been assessed- continue to question 3 Where the person has mental capacity but there are concerns of non-concordance with care and/or treatment and this has not been properly assessed / documented.	Assessed as NOT having capacity and treatment NOT provided →
3. Full assessment completed and care plan developed in a timely manner and care plan implemented?	Documentation and equipment available to demonstrate full assessment completed, care plan developed and implemented.	Documentation and equipment NOT fully available to demonstrate full assessment completed, care plan developed or care plan implemented BUT general care regime (e.g. nutrition, hydration) not of concern- continue to question 4	Little or no documentation available to demonstrate a full assessment has been completed, or care plan implemented AND general care regime (e.g. nutrition, hydration) is of concern.
4. This incident is part of a trend or pattern- there have been other similar incidents with this individual or others.	Evidence suggests this is an isolated incident.	There have been other similar incidents	Evidence demonstrates this is a pattern or trend.
	NOT SAFEGUARDING	If 2 or more of the above apply - SAFEGUARDING	SAFEGUARDING



Pressure Ulcers – Safeguarding Triggers: Pathway 2

To determine if the identification of a pressure ulcer on an individual with **NO professional support** (i.e. the only support available is from an unpaid carer/ family member) should result in a safeguarding referral the following steps should be considered.

IF IN DOUBT → Initiate Safeguarding Adults Procedures → Record decision and reasons for decision.

	Possibly NOT Safeguarding at this stage	Possibly Safeguarding	Definitely Safeguarding
1. What is the severity (Category) of the pressure ulcer?	Category 2 pressure ulcer or below – care plan required	Several Category 2 pressure ulcers/ category 3 to 4 pressure ulcers- consider question 2	Category 4 and other issues of significant concern
2. Does the individual have mental capacity and have they been compliant with treatment? Has a capacity assessment been completed?	Has capacity and declined treatment Capacity assessment is recorded.	Does not have capacity or capacity has not been assessed- continue to question 3	Assessed as NOT having capacity and treatment NOT provided
3. Unpaid carer raised concerns and sought support at an appropriate time.	Evidence available to show concerns raised and support sought – e.g. from GP, DN, SW.	Evidence NOT CLEAR that concerns were raised or support sought in a timely manner.	No support sought
4. Full assessment completed and care plan developed in a timely manner and care plan implemented?	Evidence available to show unpaid carer cooperated with assessment and has implemented care plan	Evidence of partial cooperation or implementation of care plan- some aspects may have been declined e.g. certain equipment.	NO cooperation and refusal to implement care plan and or purposeful neglect.
5. This incident is part of a trend or pattern – there have been other similar incidents or other areas of concern	Evidence suggests that this is an isolated incident	There have been other similar incidents or other areas of concern	Evidence demonstrates that this is a pattern or trend.
	NOT SAFEGUARDING	If 2 or more of the above apply Safeguarding	SAFEGUARDING