



CLAHRCBITE

Brokering Innovation Through Evidence

May 2019

PhD study: Implementing a pressure ulcer prevention care bundle in nursing homes



The National Institute for Health Research Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care (NIHR CLAHRC) Greater Manchester is a partnership between providers and commissioners from the NHS, industry, the third sector and the University of Manchester.

We aim to improve the health of people in Greater Manchester and beyond through carrying out research and putting it into practice.

What was the aim of the study?

This work aimed to co-design a pressure ulcer prevention care bundle with care home staff and tissue viability nurses, and test the feasibility and acceptability of implementing the care bundle in care homes across Greater Manchester.

Who conducted the project?

Jacqueline Lavalée is a health psychologist who joined our wound care programme in September 2014 to complete her PhD. She is based at The University of Manchester's Division of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work.

Why was it important?

Serious and life-threatening complications may occur once pressure ulcers develop. This has a big physical and financial impact on the patient and their family and carers. Therefore, pressure ulcer prevention is a key priority.



What we found and what does this mean?

It was possible to co-design and implement a pressure ulcer prevention care bundle intervention for a nursing home setting. The care bundle includes checking support surfaces, conducting skin inspections and assisting individuals to reposition

themselves. One care home implemented the care bundle and the staff reported that it was an acceptable intervention for preventing pressure ulcers. However, we identified a number of issues relating to the feasibility of implementing the care bundle in care home settings. For example, we had difficulties in recruiting and retaining care homes, as well as collecting the data. This means that the care bundle has the potential to improve the provision of pressure ulcer prevention care but we need to test the bundle further to fully understand the effects.

Who we worked with?

This PhD is being supervised by [Professor Dame Nicky Cullum](#), [Dr Jo Dumville](#) and [Dr Trish Gray](#), and involves [Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust](#).

What next?

Further feasibility research is necessary before we can assess whether the care bundle intervention is effective in preventing pressure ulcers in care homes.

What is NIHR CLAHRC GM?

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Find out more

www.clahrc-gm.nihr.ac.uk/projects/phd-study-pressure-ulcers

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