

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Biostatistics Seminar

Wednesday, November 11, 2015
12:00pm - 1:00pm -- WG73

Developing a Systems Approach to Personalized Chronic Wound Prevention

Kath Bogie D.Phil,

Department of Orthopaedics, Case Western Reserve University
Advanced Platform Technology Center, Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center

Abstract: Pressure ulcers and deep tissue injuries are localized injuries to the skin and/or underlying tissue usually over a bony prominence, as a result of sustained pressure or pressure in combination with shear. These serious health complications cause staggering costs and human suffering for many individuals with restricted mobility, particularly those with spinal cord injury (SCI). There have been over 200 risk factors reported from many domains. Primary prevention of these chronic non-healing wounds seeks to prevent initial incidence, while secondary prevention seeks to decrease chronic recurrence. Clinical practice guidelines (CPG) combine evidence based practice and expert opinion to aid clinicians in the goal of achieving best practices for primary and secondary prevention. Risk factors for primary prevention may not be the same as those for secondary prevention. The correction of all risk factors can be both overwhelming and impractical to implement in clinical practice.

There is a need to develop effective clinical tools to prioritize the multiple recommendations of CPG but there is limited guidance on how to prioritize based on individual cases.

The Veterans Health Administration has a robust electronic medical records (EMR) system that captures all encounters between a provider and Veteran on a daily basis. The use of multiple resources together with effective data mining of EMR information will enable development of a resource to support best practices in SCI care for primary and secondary PU/DTI prevention care planning.