




Differences between Moisture Associated Skin Damage and Stage 1 & Stage 2 Pressure Injury

Type of Skin Injury →	Moisture Associated Skin Damage	Pressure Injury Stage 1	Pressure Injury Stage 2
Factors to Consider ↓			
Client History	Exposure to urine and/or feces.	Exposure to pressure, moisture, and/or friction/shear.	
Location	In areas where urine and/or feces can accumulate in skin folds in the gluteal cleft or over the perineal area.	Skin over bony prominences (heels, sacral, coccyx, and ischial tuberosities), skin folds or skin exposed to other external pressure or related to a medical device.	
Characteristics of involved area	Blotchy, not uniform in appearance. Diffuse irregular areas of erythema with or without satellite lesions.	An area of non-blanchable erythema, with change in skin temperature or firmness. In darkly pigmented skin the area may differ from adjacent skin.	Dermis is exposed leading to a partial thickness wound. Usually from moisture and/or skin friction/shear.
Wound Bed	Shiny, red, glistening area. No slough in wound bed.	Intact skin with non-blanchable erythema. Note: Purple and maroon discoloration may indicate a Deep Tissue Injury (DTI).	Viable, pink or red, moist with distinct wound margins. Slough/eschar are not present.
Periwound Skin	Red, irritated, edematous.	Intact & healthy, or may appear different in darker skin tones, or edema may be palpable when compared to adjacent skin.	
Pain	Burning, itching, and tingling.	Painful	
Odour	Urine and/or fecal odour.	None	Not present unless infection.
Risk of Infection	Candidiasis common, as seen as satellite lesions.	None to Low	Low to moderate depending upon wound location.
Healing Projection	Wound bed is shallow & heals through epithelialization.	Skin is intact and non-blanchable redness should resolve over time with pressure redistribution.	Wound bed is shallow and heals through epithelialization.

Appendix A of the PNSWC's [Guideline: Assessment, Prevention and Treatment of Moisture Associated Skin Damage \(MASD\) for Adults and Children](#)