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ARE PRESSURE ULCERS (PU'S) MONITORED BY PHYSICIANS AND DO PU'S INFLUENCE THE HOSPITALIZATION?**Andrea Pokorna***

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Statement of the Problem: Pressure ulcers (PU's) are unfortunately common complication in hospitalized patients mostly bed or chair bound.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: Analyze of National register of Hospitalized patients (NRHOSP) and identification of the most common medical procedures and treatment in patients with PU's.

Findings: We have analyzed all hospitalizations in the period from 2007 – 2014 where the patients have had diagnose L89 (according ICD 10th version) as a main/primary or secondary diagnose. We verified that only a small percentage of patients had been recorded with L89 diagnose. The most common was L89 as a secondary diagnose – it means complicated situation for the main reason for hospitalization in patients. The most common medical procedure which was recorded in patient charts was debridement or Neutral Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT). The younger the patient, the more surgeries and procedures were recorded. The most common main diagnose for patients who underwent plastic surgery because of the PU's were people with spinal cord injury suffered for impaired mobility for a long time. Older patients who suffered for Pu's were mostly patients after stroke, with chronic heart failure or with dementia. The most common complication of PU's was the infection. The length of hospitalization was negatively influenced by the L89 diagnose recorded (patients with PU's were hospitalized for longer time.

Conclusion & Significance: Pressure ulcers are not commonly recorded as medical diagnoses in the National register of Hospitalized patients. When the L89 diagnose is recorded it is mostly in patients who underwent plastic surgery as it is paid by insurance company. There is need for better education in PU monitoring, prevention and treatment.