Abstract

This project identified a specific collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to decrease wound healing time in patients with pressure ulcers in a community based health care setting. Decreased healing time was observed over an eight week period in 34 patients displaying pressure ulcers. A total of 16 Stage II and III pressure ulcers were resolved during the eight week observation period. The remaining five Stage III pressure ulcers improved to have Stage II characteristics during the eight week period. A decrease in size was noted in the six Stage IV pressure ulcers. Referrals were required to specialists in four cases. Five patients with unstageable pressure ulcers required aggressive advanced wound management from specialists with improved wound healing. Effective communication between the agency staff, primary care providers, and specialists created a positive environment for appropriate and timely treatment and referrals and improved wound healing over an eight week period.

Keywords: collaboration, multidisciplinary, pressure ulcer, wound care