# PUREWICK: Can it Save Our Skin?

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# PUREWICK: Can it Save Our Skin?

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## BACKGROUND

- Moisture associated skin damage (MASD) is an inflammatory process which increases the skin's water loss. This compromises the skin's barrier ability.
- High incidence of MASD due to incontinence
- MASD is a common problem in the critically ill, occurring in more than a quarter of ICU patients within a short period of time.

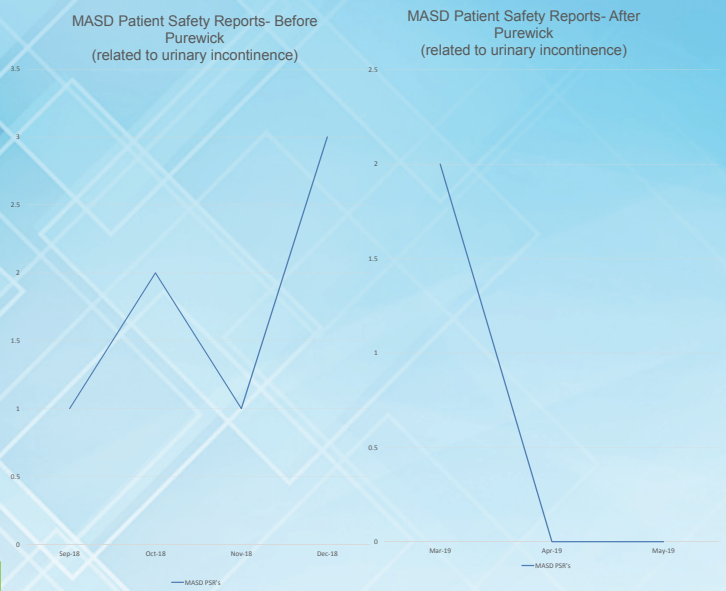
## PICO Question

- For female ICU patients, does the use of the purewick female external catheter compared to no urinary collection device reduce the incidence of MASD?
- P- Female ICU patients
- I- Purewick external female catheter
- C- No urinary collection device
- O- Reduction of MASD

## EVIDENCE

- The use of external urinary catheters has shown a major decrease in skin disorders in incontinent patients and it proves as a useful tool in calculating intake and output or voiding function in patients (Nishizawa, et al., 2008)
- Use of female external urine collection device is a viable alternative to an indwelling urinary catheter or intervention for urinary incontinence and minimizes the risk for skin injury and infection. Increases patient satisfaction and feeling of "cleanliness". Patients request for continued or repeat use. Allows for ongoing monitoring of continuous output, aids in the provision of patient dignity and reportedly, improves nurse satisfaction (Beeson and Davis, 2018)
- Avoidance of MASD relies on the prompt removal of urine from the skin combined with good skin care (Black, Gray, Bliss, Evans, Logan, Baharestani, Colwell, Goldberg, & Ratliff, 2011, p.363). Use of a diversion or collecting device, paired with a skin care regimen, can reduce the incidence of MASD further(Black, et al., 2011, p.364).

## OUTCOMES

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## Implementation

- Contacted the specialist handling products to gain access to the Purewick catheter for the ICU
- Distributed informational handouts and unit-wide email on Purewick catheter usage guidelines among the ICU staff
- Involved the skin care team/skin champion to help encourage usage on the unit
- Track incidence of MASD pre and post availability of Purewick (Purewick became available after Dec 2018)

## NEXT STEPS

- Continue to encourage use on the unit.
- Use throughout the hospital on other units.
- Continue to monitor for MASD and pressure injuries.