

Study: Ineffective Care for Pelvic Decubitus Ulcer in Focus

Dr. Vigna emphasizes the need for plastic surgeons to address Stage IV bedsores, with studies showing poor outcomes for non-surgical treatments

SANTA BARBARA, CA, UNITED STATES, February 25, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- "The first question I think that needs to be answered by hospitals that cause a Stage IV bedsores is if there is a plastic surgeon on staff that can fix the problem," states [Greg Vigna, MD, JD](#), malpractice attorney, Board Certified Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

What does the study by Dr. Damioli say about Stage IV bedsores that are complicated by osteomyelitis?

"We describe treatments and outcomes of hospitalized patients with decubitus ulcer-related osteomyelitis who did not undergo surgical reconstruction or coverage.

1. Of 89 patients meeting inclusion criteria, 34 (38%) received surgical debridement and greater than 6 weeks of antibiotics; 55 (62%) received either antibiotics alone or debridement and less than 6 weeks of antibiotics. Mean age was 55.

2. Within 1 year, 56 (63%) patients were readmitted, 38 (44%) patients were readmitted due to complications from osteomyelitis, and 15 (17%) died.

“

The standard of care for injuries caused by never events in hospitals is that the physicians fix the complications.”

Greg Vigna, MD

3. We found no significant differences in readmission, readmission related to osteomyelitis, subsequent sepsis, or death by treatment group.”

What was the conclusion of the study?

1. "Among patients with decubitus-related osteomyelitis



Dr. Greg Vigna

who did not undergo myocutaneous flapping, outcomes were generally poor regardless of treatment, and not significantly improved with prolonged antibiotics.”

Read Dr. Damioli's study: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/20499361231196664>

What do Harvard plastic surgeons say about the surgical treatment of decubitus ulcers?:

“Despite patients with poor baseline functional status, flap coverage for pressure ulcer patients is safe with acceptable postoperative complications. This type of treatment should be considered for properly selected patients.”

Read Harvard plastic surgeon's article: <https://www.thieme-connect.com/products/ejournals/html/10.5999/aps.2018.00262>

Dr. Vigna states, “I've been on hospital staffs where the physicians would fix the complications that hospitals cause. That is the standard of care for injuries caused by never events.”

[The Vigna Law Group](#), along with Ben C. Martin, Esq., of the [Ben Martin Law Group](#), a Dallas, Texas national pharmaceutical injury law firm, jointly prosecute hospital and nursing home neglect cases that result in bedsores nationwide.

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