

THE IMPACT OF HANDS-ON EDUCATION, QUALITY BRIEFS AND INCONTINENCE WIPES IN A SUB-ACUTE/LTC FACILITY

Authors M. Sanantonio RN, C. Gunner RN, S. Toussaint LVN, M. Moore LVN

I. OVERVIEW

A 30-day incorporation of incontinent products including briefs, pads, and incontinent wipes with skin and wound training, turning and repositioning and sizing. The areas of focus looked at costs for correct sizing, laundry costs and skin condition costs. The economic impact of incontinence-associated dermatitis is significant. The inflation-adjusted annual estimated cost for skin conditions related to incontinence in the United States eclipses \$215 million, and on average, in a long-term care setting, the cost to treat one mild to moderate IAD episode in one resident can be up to \$169.

II. IAD

The average cost of treating a patient with IAD from mild to moderate is \$169. In the study period the rate of IAD went down from 38% to 12%.

The cost to treat comparison is
\$7,098 to \$2,028, a reduction of 71.42%.



III. BRIEF COSTS

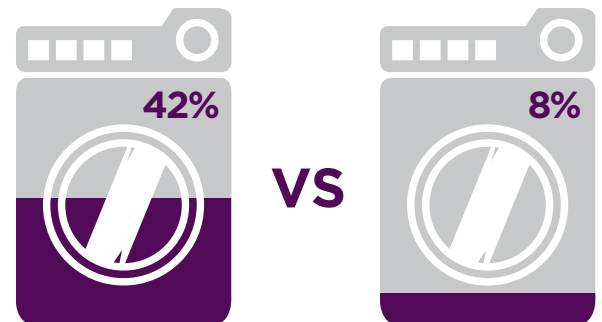
The correct sizing of patients impacts the cost of product. The facility initially had 54% in the wrong size brief, with an average monthly spend of \$5,348 on briefs vs. correct size products. At the end of the study, the cost was reduced to \$4,133.



Correct brief sizing **saved over \$1,215**, a 22.73% reduction.

IV. LAUNDRY COSTS

The facility used washcloths and soap for peri care needs and had a high rate of complete bed changes due to incorrect sizing and absorption needs. Brief leakage requiring full linen change was 42% at two weeks vs. 8% at end of study.



Laundry costs were **reduced over \$5,900** for the month.