

A photograph of two healthcare professionals in blue scrubs. One is seen from the back, and the other is facing him, looking intently. A stethoscope is visible around the neck of the man facing the camera. The background is a bright, clinical environment.

**Preventing pressure
ulcers is profitable**

 **care of sweden**
SUPPORTING LIFE

Investment in knowledge and new mattresses paid off

A study conducted at Central Hospital in Kristianstad, Sweden, shows that after replacing existing mattresses with CuroCell® AREA Zone, in combination with education, the pressure ulcer incidence decreased.

The study was conducted by the orthopeics ward in cooperation with Care of Sweden. The aim was to analyze differences in pressure ulcer incidence before and after investing in education and new mattresses for pressure ulcer prevention (CuroCell® AREA Zone).

The measurements were maid during a six month period in year 2016 and were compared with the equivalent period in year 2018⁽¹⁾. In this folder you can read more about what savings could be made and what benefits CuroCell® AREA Zone has as an aid in both pressure ulcer prevention and treatment.

90 %

In health economics studies, the costs related to pressure ulcer care has been estimated to 90% of the total costs.

The remaining 10% is the costs of dressings, pads and antibiotics⁽²⁾.

73% decrease of pressure ulcers

In just two years.

Year	Amount of Pressure ulcers
2016	40
2017	14
2018	10

Caregivers recieved education and preventative mattresses were procured

The care staff recieved education and all 28 beds at the orthopedic clinic were equipped with mattresses intended to be used as an aid to prevent and treat pressure ulcers. The result showed that **the number of patients with pressure ulcers decreased from 13 to 7** during a six-month period.

Care time can be shortened by preventing pressure ulcers

In the health economic literature and clinical studies, it has been shown that for each patient with pressure ulcer, the length of hospital care increases by an average of 2,5 days.

Pressure ulcers are costly

The increased hospital cost for a patient with pressure ulcer is estimated to be on average €2 048,88. This is based on a care cost of €819,55/day multiplied by 2½ days⁽²⁾.



Hybrid mattress
up to category III,
and user weight
up to 230 kg

Reduced costs of € 24 586,54 in just one year

In our example at the orthopedic clinic in Kristianstad, the numbers of patients with pressure ulcers decreased from 13 to 7 patients over a six-month period. This means that the estimated costs for the clinic decreased with €24 586,54 in one year, or €122 932,72 during the life span of the mattress (5 years), which means that the investment is profitable already in 2 years.

Large savings for the municipality

It takes an average of four months to heal a category III pressure ulcer, and five months to heal a pressure ulcer of category IV⁽³⁾. During this time staff from the municipality must take care of the patient and redress the wounds. The large costs of treating pressure ulcers is not the costs of hospital care, but the costs of the patient's suffering and the care required during the months it takes to heal a pressure ulcer.

⁽¹⁾ Clinical report, CuroCell AREA Zone 2018

⁽²⁾ Nordic Health Economics 2017, Pressure ulcers in Sweden - cost implications within inpatient care.

⁽³⁾ Dealey C et al. J Wound Care. 2012;21(6)

Care of Sweden is an innovative company in the medtech sector, devoted to the cause of eliminating pressure ulcers around the world. Our product range covers mattresses, positioning pillows and seat cushions, used as an aid in the prevention as well as treatment of pressure ulcers. Our head office, R&D and production are located in Tranemo, western Sweden, and our products are used in care facilities across Sweden as well as in many other parts of the world.

