Appendix M: Pressure injury assessment tools

The following list of pressure injury assessment tools is not exhaustive. The tools have been suggested as examples and were identified through the systematic review or by the expert panel. The most common, valid, and reliable wound assessment tools for use in adults are the following (not in order of importance):

- Pressure Ulcer Scale for Healing (PUSH);
- Photographic Wound Assessment Tool (PWAT) and
- Bates-Jensen Wound Assessment Tool (BWAT).

For a detailed, systematic analysis of all available assessment tools see the systematic review by Smet et al, 2021 (134).

Table 23: Pressure injury assessment tools

TOOL	REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION
Pressure Ulcer Scale for Healing (PUSH) version 3.0	Stotts NA, Rodeheaver GT, Thomas DR, et al. An instrument to measure healing in pressure ulcers: Development and validation of the pressure ulcer scale for healing (PUSH). J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 2001;56(12):M795-M9.	The Pressure Ulcer Scale for Healing (PUSH Tool) was developed by the National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel (NPIAP) as a quick, reliable tool to monitor the change in pressure injury status over time. Construct validity and responsiveness rated highly (134).
Photographic Wound Assessment Tool (PWAT)	Houghton PE, Kincaid CB, Campbell KE, et al. Photographic assessment of the appearance of chronic pressure and leg ulcers. Ostomy Wound Management. 2000;46(4):2030	The PWAT uses wound photographs to assess wound status. Can be used when bedside assessment is not possible. Reliability rated highly (134).
Bates-Jensen Wound Assessment Tool (BWAT)	Bates-Jensen BM, McCreath HE, Harputlu D, Patlan A. Reliability of the Bates-Jensen wound assessment tool for pressure injury assessment: The pressure ulcer detection study. Wound Repair and Regeneration. 2019;27(4):386-95.	The BWAT tool is widely used in wound care practice in Canada. It is used to fully describe a pressure injury or other type of wound.