Economic Challenges of Non-Healing Wounds
A Closer Look at the Cost of Wounds

Chronic wounds were responsible for approximately $32 Billion in Medicare expenditures across multiple patient care settings in 2014. Surgical wounds are the most common and expensive wounds, with a mid-range cost estimate of $13.1 billion for both the wound and an accompanying infection. Infected foot ulcers in people with diabetes were second, with a mid-range estimate of 6.9 billion.¹

Total Medicare spending on non-healing wounds was highest in the hospital outpatient setting (ranging between $9.9-35.8 billion), followed by spending in the hospital inpatient setting ($5.0–$24.3 billion).²

For inpatients, a Stage 3 or Stage 4 pressure injury that develops during a hospital stay is classified as a Hospital Acquired Condition (HAC), and not reimbursed by Medicare.²

The costs of a hospital acquired pressure injury can result in an average of $17,000 additional patient care dollars per patient.³ A patient with a pressure injury is more likely to be readmitted to the hospital within 30 days (23% vs 18%; p<0.001) and have a longer risk-adjusted hospital length of stay (LOS) (11.6 days vs 4.9 days; p<0.001).⁴
Nutrition is an important component in the plan of care for patients with wounds. **Use of evidence-based solutions with a unique immunonutrient blend can help reduce the risk of readmissions**, additional costly complications and longer lengths of stay.6-8

**Specialized nutrition for patients with wounds**

**IMPACT® PEPTIDE 1.5** is designed to support the nutritional management of surgical wounds, stage 3, 4 and unstageable pressure injuries, burns and other wounds.

- High protein (25%) to support synthesis of new tissue.9
- Unique blend of supplemental ingredients that help support immune function:
  - L-arginine, nucleotides and omega-3 fatty acids.10
  - Metabolism of L-arginine at the wound level supports two of the four phases of wound healing.9, 11, 12
- Contains Vitamins A and C, Zinc and Selenium, which have been identified as especially important for wounds.9
- National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) Guidelines support the provision of increased protein, arginine and additional micronutrients for the management of Stage 3 and 4 Pressure injuries.9

**Looking for an evidence-based oral supplement for major surgical patients?**

**IMPACT Advanced Recovery® Drink** contains the same unique blend of immunonutrients found in IMPACT® Peptide 1.5: arginine, omega-3 fatty acids and nucleotides. This blend of ingredients has been clinically proven to reduce surgical wound healing complications in major elective surgery patients.6

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