

# SacralSense System

By I-CUra Tech

*Prevention of Pressure Ulcers in the  
Intensive Care Unit*

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*Making the Critical Simple*

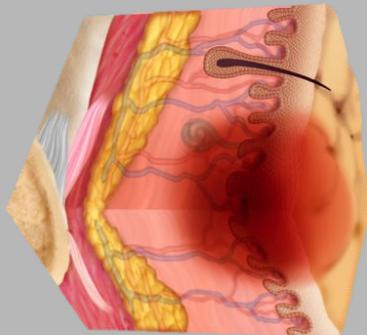
**Georgia  
Tech**



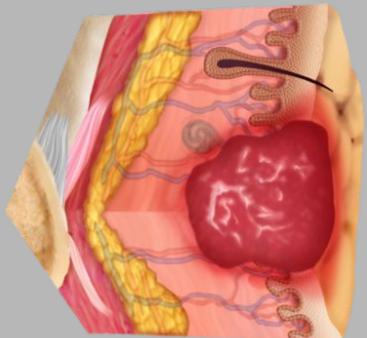
# Pressure Ulcers

A pressure ulcer is a localized damage to the skin and underlying soft tissue usually over a bony prominence [1]

**Stage 1**



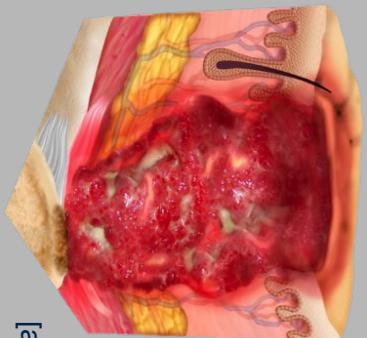
**Stage 2**



**Stage 3**



**Stage 4**



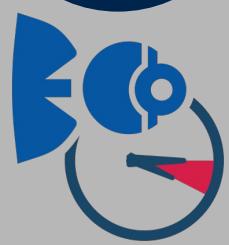
[a]

# Clinical Case

## Clinical Significance

Incidence Rate: 3 - 30% in the ICU [2]

Average Additional Length of Stay: 4.3 days [3]



## Medical Complications [4]

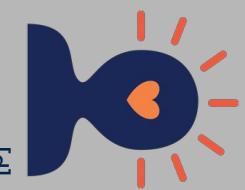
Infection, Vascular Damage, Increased Recovery

Time, Mortality

[c]

## Psychosocial Complications [4]

Social Isolation, Anxiety, Diminished Quality of Life



[d]

# Financial Case - U.S.

## Medical Costs

[5]

\$11 Billion

2.5 Million  
Patients

## Litigations

[6]

\$4 Billion

No  
Reimbursement  
for HAC

## Medicare

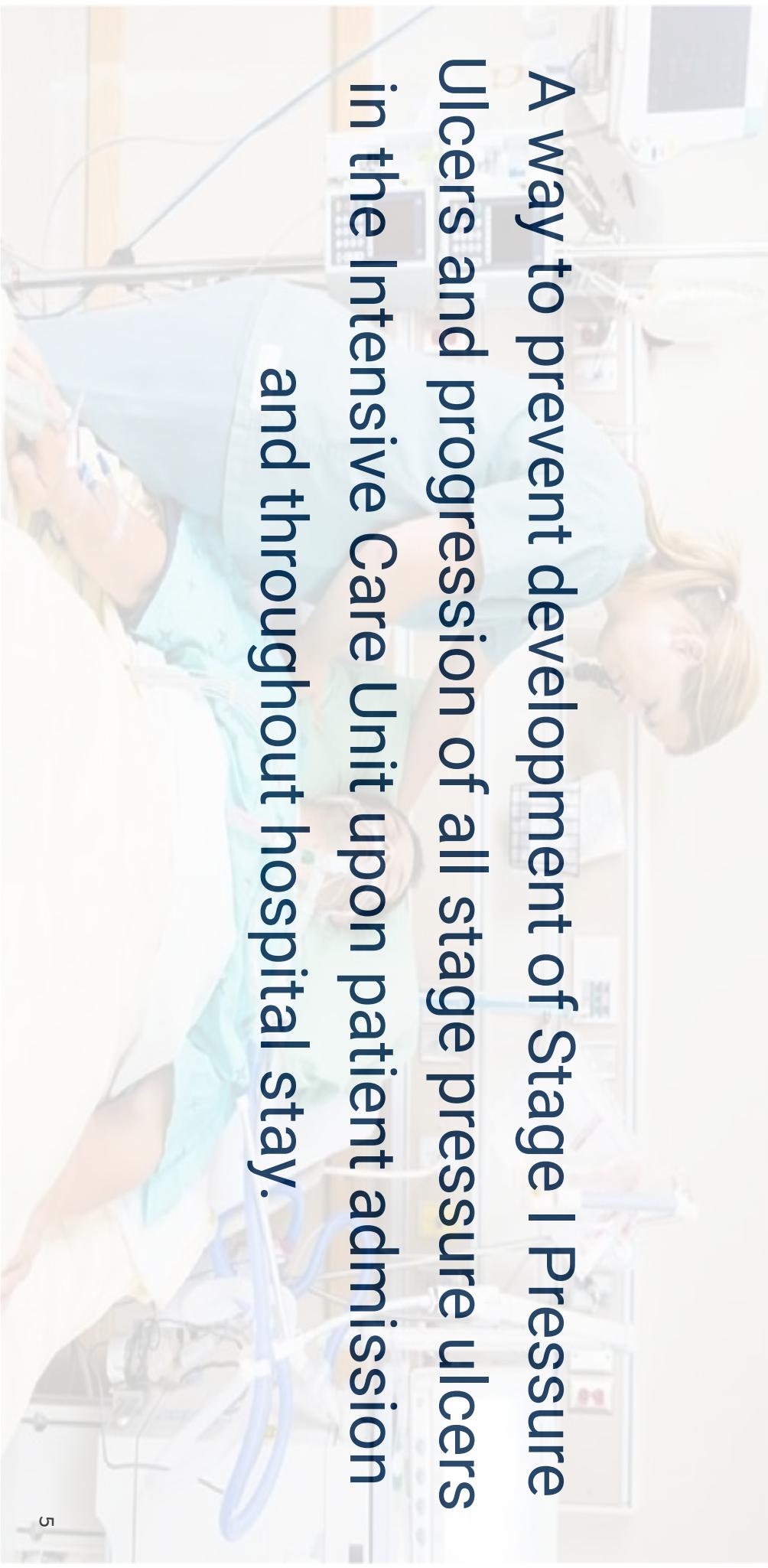
[7,8,9]

Prevention: \$55/day  
Treatment:  
Stage I/II: \$2,770/day  
Stage III/IV: \$18,231/day

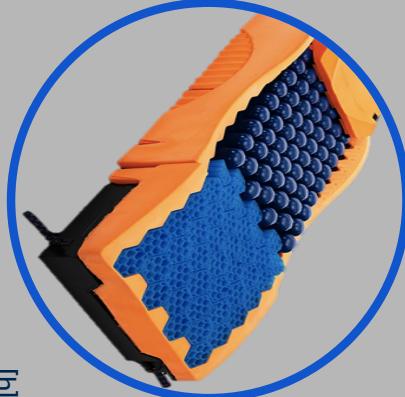
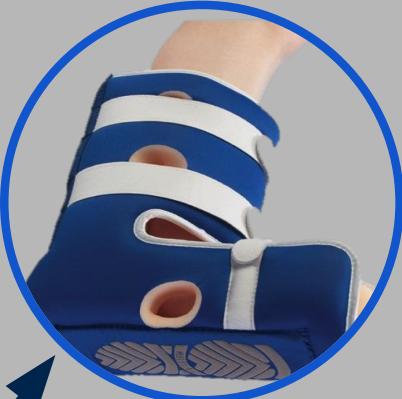
Lowest quartile -  
1% penalty on all  
codes

# Need Statement

A way to prevent development of Stage I Pressure Ulcers and progression of all stage pressure ulcers in the Intensive Care Unit upon patient admission and throughout hospital stay.



# Current Preventative Methods



# **Physiological Indicators**

**External  
Factors**

**Internal  
Factors**

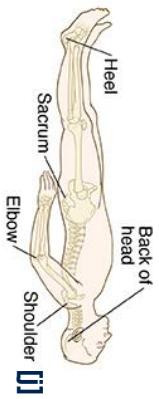
# Physiological Indicators

## External Pressure [10]

Normal Pressure  
Only  
**11.6 kPa**

Pressure + Shear Stress  
**8.7 kPa**

INCREASED RISK



## Bioimpedance [11]

Cell death

Edema

Fluid Leakage

Internal Moisture

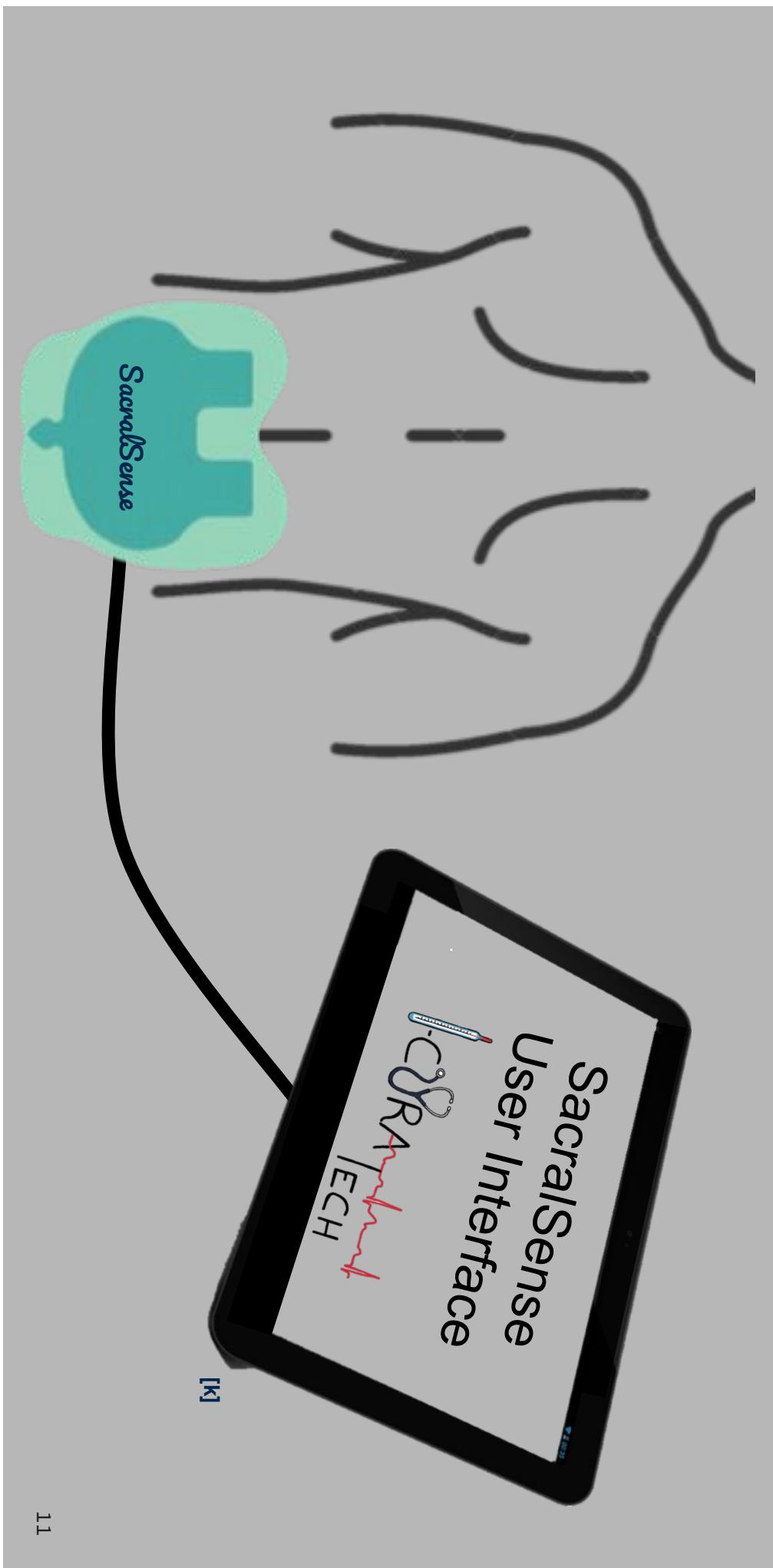
HIGH CONDUCTIVITY

# Current Clinical Problem

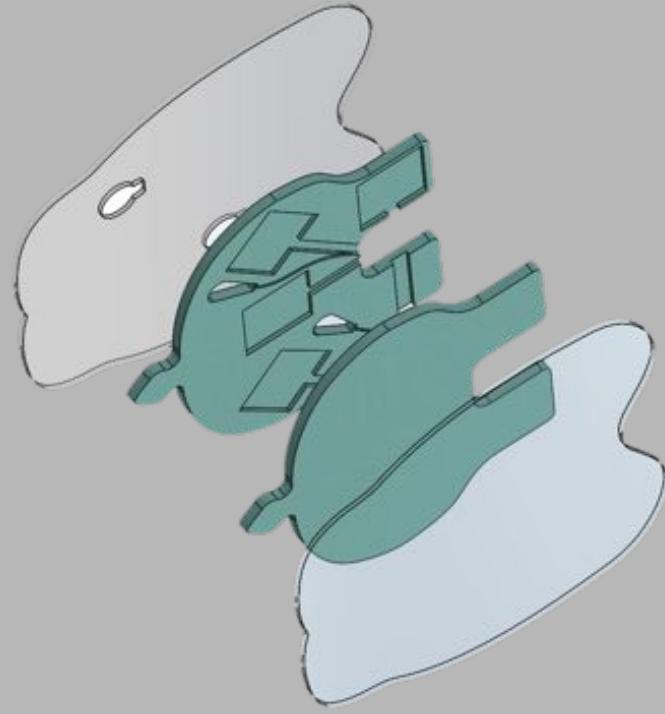
There are no current methods to evaluate the physiological indicators of pressure ulcer development to prevent pressure ulcer onset and progression in the ICU.

# Clinical Solution

# SacralSense System



# SacralSense Dressing



## Backing Layer

Tight seal to prevent moisture leakage  
Polyurethane film

## Compression Layers

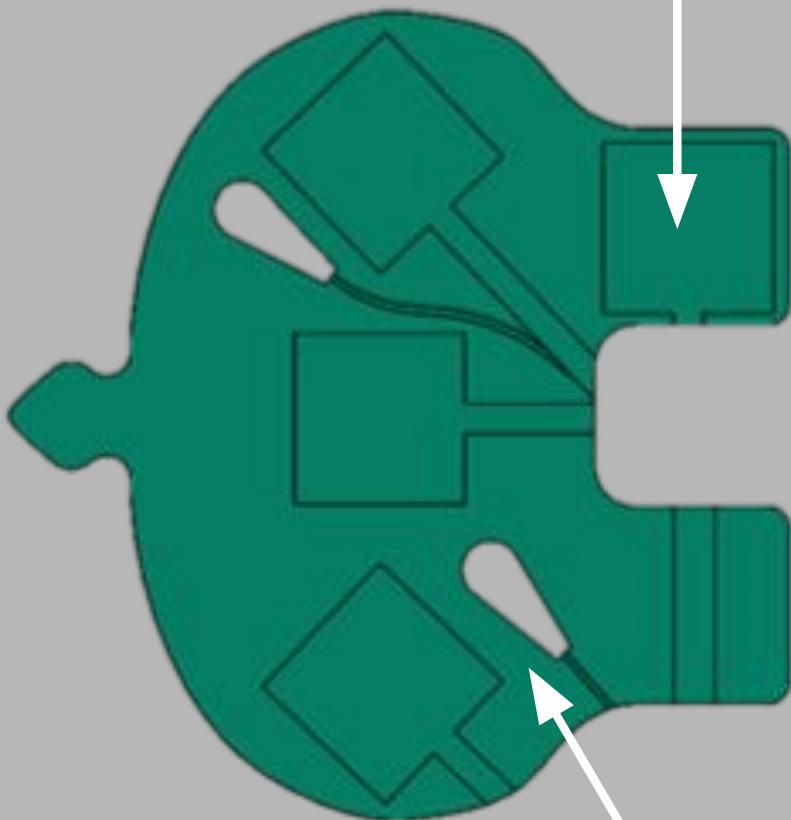
Moisture retention and cushioning  
Houses embedded sensors and wires  
Polyurethane foam

## Skin-Contacting Layer

Protects the skin and re-distributes pressure  
Houses embedded electrodes  
Silicone adhesive film

# SacralSense Dressing - Sensors

## Force Sensitive Resistors (FSRs) + Electrodes



Reference  
FSR for  
Relative  
Differential  
Pressure

3 Sensor  
Array for  
Precise  
Detection

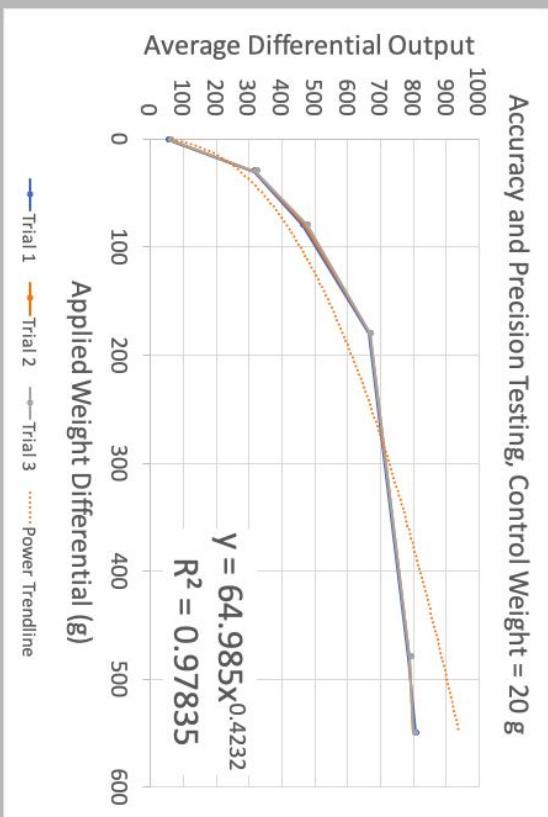
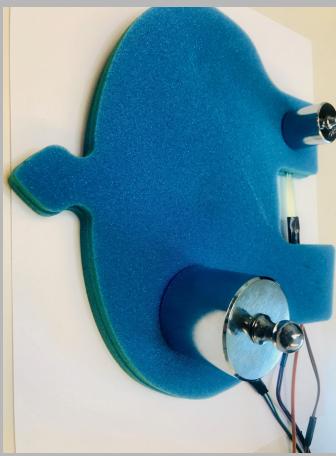
Diagonal  
Orientation  
Measures  
Across  
Spine

Pre-gelled,  
Adhesive  
Backed

# Verification Testing

# Verification Testing - Sensors

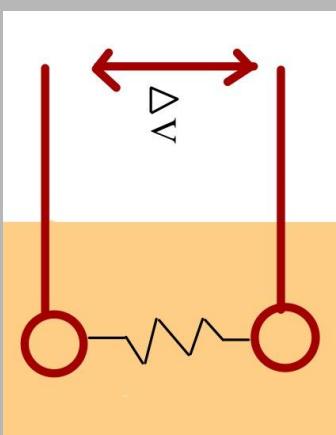
## Calibration of Pressure



**Dynamic Ranges**

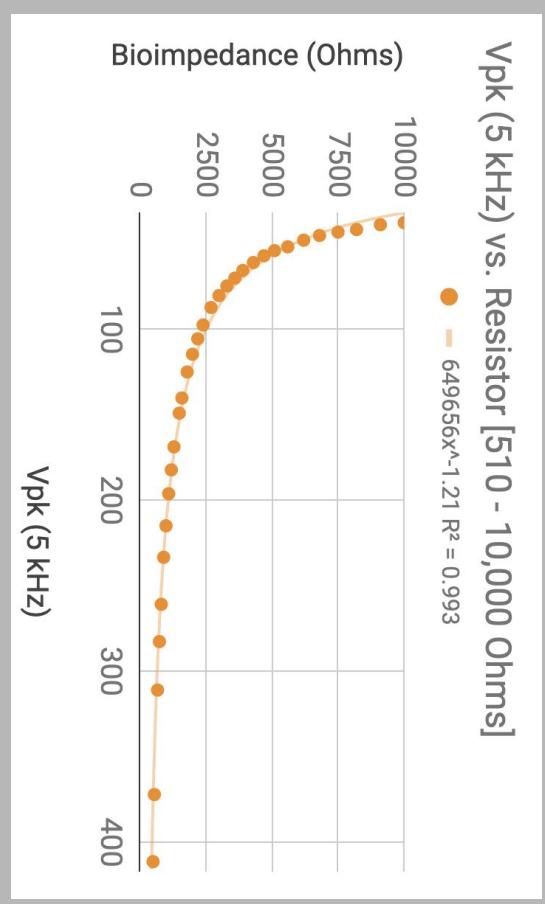
0 - 18 kPa

0 - 470 kΩ



V<sub>pk</sub> (5 kHz) vs. Resistor [510 - 10,000 Ohms]

$$\bullet \quad -649656x^{-1.21} R^2 = 0.993$$

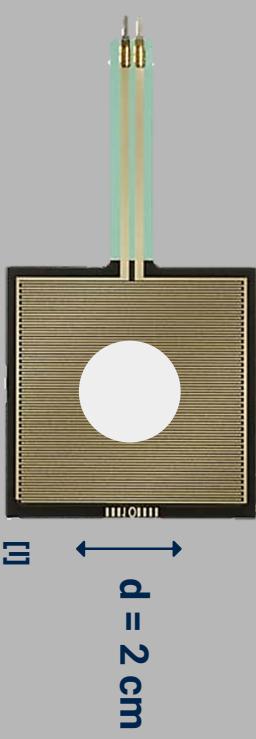
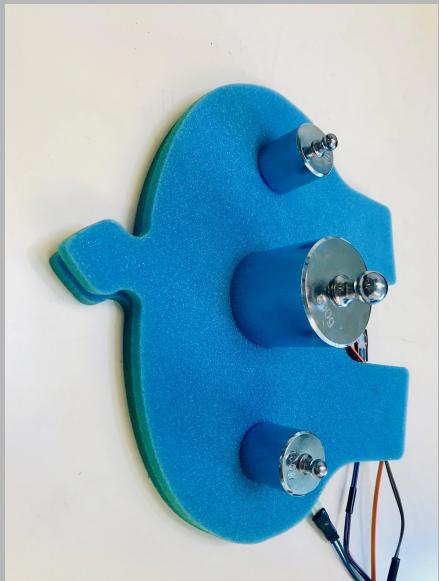


## Calibration of Bioimpedance

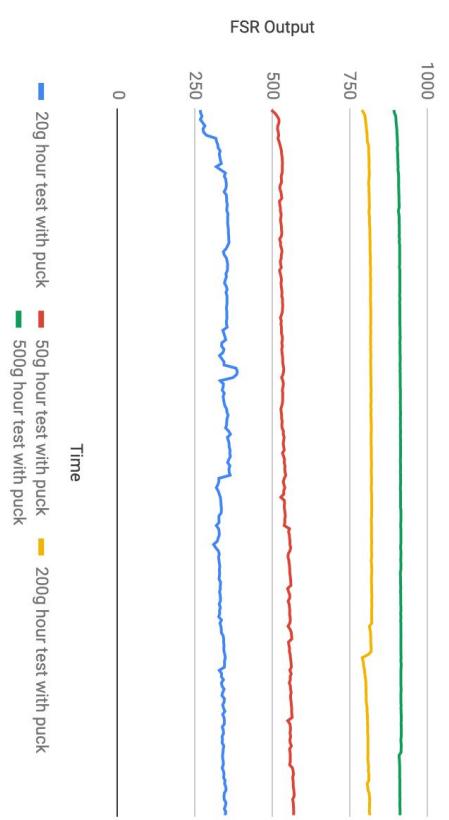
# Verification Testing - Pressure

## Accuracy of Pressure Differential

## 1 Hour Drift Test



FSR Drift Over 1 Hour (Puck)



	Left (100g)	Center (500g)	Right (100g)
Average	831.2	956.7	799.3
Differential	3.9	2.4	4.3

# Verification Testing - Bioimpedance

## Frequency and Voltage Study

## Depth Test



**Conclusion:** **100 kHz** and **2 Vpk** gave minimal variation in bioimpedance and optimal for human measurements

**Conclusion:** Bioimpedance electrodes can measure up to **12 mm** in depth

# Verification Testing - Bioimpedance

## Selectivity Test



Frequency = 100 kHz $V_{pk} = 2 V$	
Sample	Reduction
Potato 1	48.49%
Potato 2	71.56%

## Human Subject Test



**Conclusion: Measurable reduction**  
in bioimpedance after saline bath

**Conclusion: Bioimpedance values**  
were **variable yet consistently in**  
**the healthy range**

**Average ( $n = 8$ ):  $2792 \pm 700.2 \Omega$**

# Verification Testing - SacralSense System

## Conclusions:

- System **alternated** between collecting pressure and bioimpedance data
  - System detected localized pressure due to **shifts in weight**
- ```
Impedance: 1736.97 - Healthy. Good Job! :-)
Impedance: 1736.97 - Healthy. Good Job! :-)
Impedance: 1741.03 - Healthy. Good Job! :-)
Impedance: 1730.92 - Healthy. Good Job! :-)
Left Pressure Sensor reading = 581 - Large Pressure
Center Pressure Sensor reading = 650 - Large Pressure
Right Pressure Sensor reading = 615 - Large Pressure
Force being applied on spinal column
Left Pressure Sensor reading = 471 - Medium Pressure
Center Pressure Sensor reading = 641 - Large Pressure
Right Pressure Sensor reading = 473 - Medium Pressure
Force being applied on spinal column
```



# User Interface

# SacralSense User Interface

Accessibility

Trend

Automatic

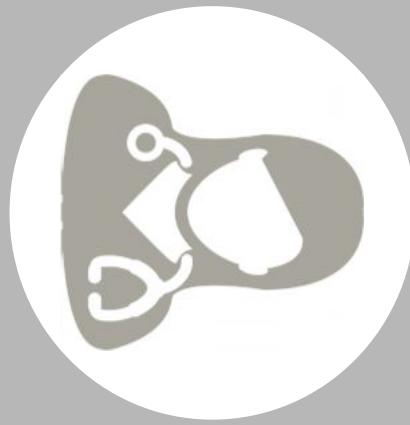
User

of Data

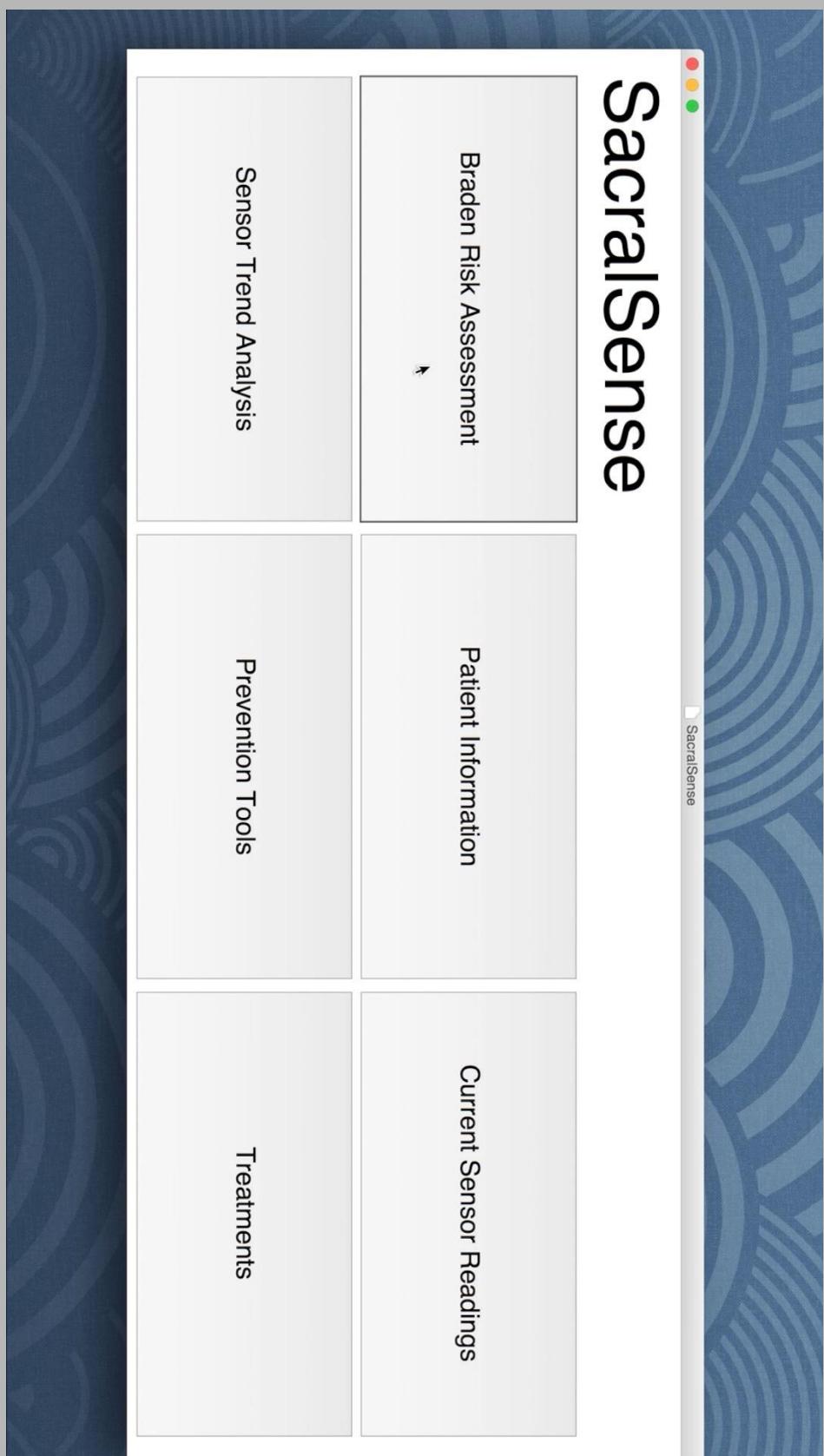
Analysis

Alerts

Friendly



# SacralSense User Interface



# Usability Tests

## Threshold Alarms

Alarms are easy to notice and beneficial

## Concerns

Recurring audible alarms can distress patient

## Future Design Ideas

- Solely visual alarm (flash) in patient's room
- Include audible alarm in telemetry system



# Usability Tests

## Hydrofoam Dressing

Comparable to current dressings  
Reference sensor location is accurate

### Concerns

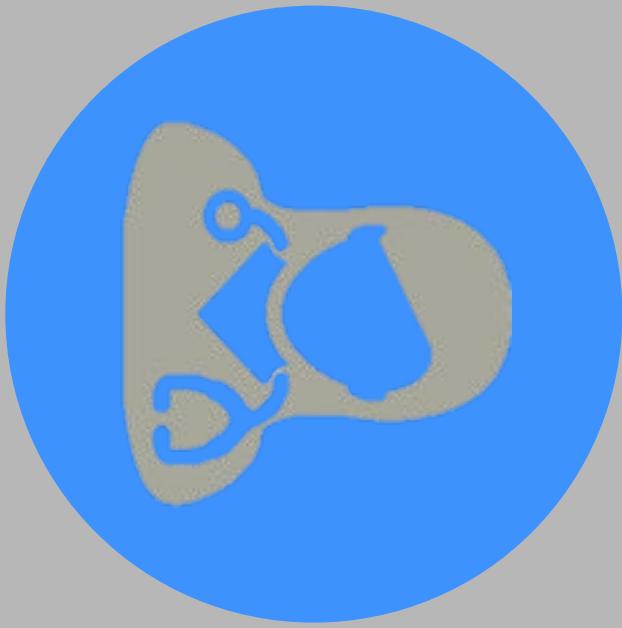
Wiring could increase external pressure and  
added inconvenience

## Future Design Ideas

Consider wireless/portable design



# Usability Tests



## Input of Data

All necessary patient information is included

## Concerns

Repetitive inputs are a waste of time

## Future Design Ideas

Automatic transfer of information between  
EMR and user interface

# Commercialization

# Regulatory Landscape

Regulatory Environment  
Classification of Use  
Patient Population  
Indications for Use

Class II  
510(k)

Intensive  
Care Unit

Age 15+

ICU Patient at  
Risk for a  
Pressure Ulcer

# Value Brief - Pricing Strategy

SacralSense System

\$500

User Interface

\$30

Dressing

Reusable

Single Use

Billed Based on  
Daily Usage Rate

Billed to Patient's  
Hospital Stay

# Value Brief - Healthcare Economics

Case Study: 9.49% Market Penetration, +20% Prevention Rate

Time

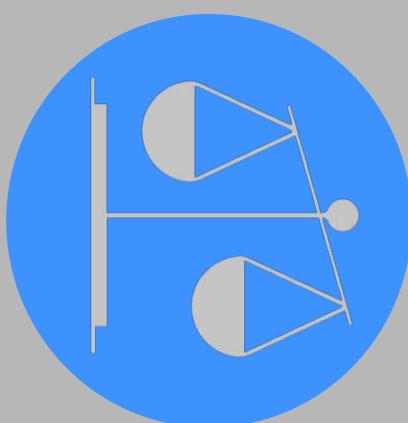
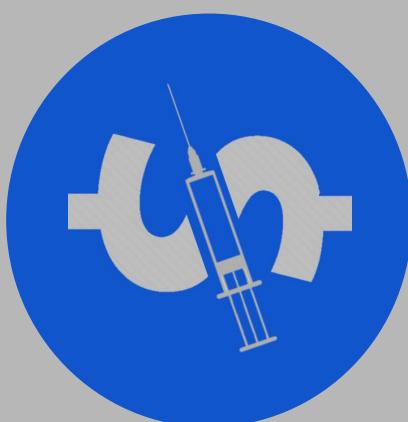
Treatment

Litigation

Savings

Savings

Savings



101.8 days/yr

10 bed ICU

\$206,785/yr

Emory ICU unit<sup>[12]</sup>

\$75.9 million/yr

in USA

# Future Directions

## Testing

**Cadaver Tissue**  
Healthy vs. Unhealthy

## Design

**Design for Manufacturing**

**Animal Studies**  
 $n = 30$ , Porcine

**Portable System**

**Clinical Studies**  
 $n = 100$ , Safety & Efficacy

**Expand Product Portfolio**

# SacralSense System



# Acknowledgments



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Professors



*Making the Critical Simple*

Georgia  
Tech

# Thank You!



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Dipro Chakraborty  
Quality



Cristina Ibáñez  
R&D



Ben Myers  
Clinical



Shraddha Patel  
Financial



*Making the Critical Simple*



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