Introduction:
Braden Scale (BS) has been used as an important tool to predict risk of development of Pressure Ulcer (PU) in ICU patients. In its turn, the presence of PU correlates with higher illness severity and risk of death. Objectives: OBJECTIVES: To evaluate whether the values of the Braden scale in ICU patients correlate with a higher risk of death.

Methods:
Prospective cohort study in 11 ICUs during a 45-day period. Adult (>18y) patients were followed until ICU discharge (death or discharged alive). BS was assessed (by the ICU nurse) on admission (1st day), 3rd, and 9th ICU day (only in the ICU), regardless of the presence of PU.

Results:
During the study period, 332 patients were admitted (mean age 63.2 y, APACHE II 14.9, 52.1% male, admission causes: 50.3% medical, 12.0% trauma, 37.7% postoperative). The incidence of PU was 13.5%, and the BS was strongly correlated with the incidence of PU, either when measured on the 1st day, on the 3rd or on the 9th day (p <0.001 PU x non-PU for each evaluation). In addition, BS values were strongly correlated with ICU mortality, regardless of the period evaluated (fig.1).

Conclusion:
In addition to its role as a predictor of the incidence of PU in critically ill patients, BS was strongly correlated to ICU mortality.