

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Dear Care Partners

Choosing a support surface is not simply about selecting the correct mattress. It starts with understanding the person. Factors such as mobility, skin condition, comfort, care needs and environment should be considered. Because the right support surface is the one that meets the person's needs today.

Start With The Person

Before choosing a support surface, Consider the individual, not just the product.



How Mobile Are They?

Can they reposition independently, make small movements or are they dependent on others for turning?



What Is Their Current Skin Condition?

Look for existing pressure injuries, persistent redness or changes in skin integrity.



What Is Their Overall Risk?

Consider factors such as frailty, nutrition, circulation, continence and general health.



How Comfortable Are They?

Pressure redistribution matters, but so does comfort, rest and quality of sleep.



What Are Their Care Needs?

Consider repositioning frequency, transfers, handling requirements and the level of assistance needed.



Has Anything Changed?

A support surface that was appropriate before may or may no longer be suitable.



Remember: Support surface selection should begin with an individual assessment and continue with regular reassessment.

What Should The Right Support Surface Provide?



Pressure Redistribution

Helps distribute pressure and reduce prolonged loading over vulnerable areas.



Comfort & Stability

Supports rest while providing an appropriate level of stability for the individual.



Movement & Repositioning

Works together with the person's mobility and repositioning needs.



Compatibility with Care

Supports transfers, repositioning and other daily care activities.



Appropriate Microclimate

Helps manage heat and moisture at the interface between the person and the surface.



Adaptability

Continues to meet the person's needs as their condition and level of risk change.

Did you know?

The most advanced support surface is not automatically the most appropriate one. The right choice depends on the individual, their clinical needs and how care is delivered. Technology should support good care, not replace it.



From the Ground: What Should Trigger a Review?



- Skin condition change or persistent redness
- Mobility or the ability to reposition independently decreases
- Repositioning becomes more difficult
- The patient's overall health or care needs to change
- The current surface shows signs of wear and tear or no longer performs as expected

“The question is not only:
“Is the mattress still working?”

It is:
“Is this still the right support
surface for this person, today?”

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Supporting Better Care, Together

Choosing the right support surface is not about finding one solution for everyone. It is about matching the right support to the right person and reviewing that choice as their needs change.



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