

Abstract

The prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers is a major concern of hospital nursing leadership and staff. With the large number of selections currently available, selection of the appropriate support surface can be difficult.

Interventions

After reviewing prior research conducted by DeFloor and DeSchuijmer (2000) that demonstrated Tempur-Med. mattresses to be more effective at reducing interface pressure than other types, including gel, polyether and foam mattresses, the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen Hospital trialed the Tempur-Med. mattresses.

Results

The prior positive findings were confirmed during the Royal Liverpool trial, with healing of Stage II pressure ulcers documented. The patients at Royal Liverpool also reported experiencing a better night's sleep. The trial findings resulted in the hospital replacing mattresses for its 1331 beds with Tempur-Med. mattresses.

Conclusions

Tempur-Med. mattresses provide a maintenance-free and cost-effective solution for pressure ulcer prevention and treatment, with a range of pressure-redistributing mattresses that provide an option for both prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers. Tempur-Pedic Medical's product line includes stretcher mattresses and wheelchair cushions, which ensures continuity of care across all care areas within the hospital. Its preventive performance covers those patients at very high risk of developing pressure ulcers, and therefore reduces the need for more expensive, rental dynamic systems.

Studies were performed by Tempur-Pedic Medical.

¹ Excerpted from Marino, J. (2001). Tempur-Med.: Choosing the Correct Pressure Area Care System, British Journal of Nursing, 10 (20), 1364-67.

NOTE: As with any case study, the results reported should not be interpreted as a guarantee or warranty of similar results. Individual results may vary depending on the patient's physical condition. Unless otherwise specified, any economic value or savings reported is based on data provided by the facilities and observations of the individuals involved in the study.

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