

PRESSURE-REDUCING MATTRESSES AND PADS

PURPOSE:

1. To relieve pressure, reduce skin irritation and prevent break in skin integrity.

EQUIPMENT:

1. Pressure-reducing mattress or pad as ordered.
NOTE: Egg crate mattresses and pads may not be considered pressure-reducing devices if not of sufficient thickness and density.
2. Appropriate linen.

PROCEDURE:

1. Strip bed or wheelchair of all linen and discard properly.
2. Inspect wheelchair seat and mattress for cleanliness; clean if necessary.
3. NO LINEN IS TO BE PLACED UNDER OVERLAY MATTRESS; MATTRESS MUST COME IN CONTACT WITH SURFACE OF BED MATTRESS OR WHEELCHAIR PAD OR IT WILL NOT STAY IN PLACE.
4. Inspect mattress or pad for worn areas. If worn, replace.
5. Position mattress on bed or bed mattress overlay on mattress or wheelchair pad on seat.
6. Cover loosely with single sheet or wheelchair seat cover.
7. Replace top linen.
8. Assist resident into bed or chair position comfortably with call light within reach.