

Pressure Relief in a Field Hospital

No Problems - Only Solutions

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A selection of cases that benefited from the REPOSE system

High velocity Gun Shot Wound (GSW) femur

Nursed on locally manufactured traction. Utilised cushion to protect the sacrum and the leg protector on the unaffected heel.

27% burns to arms legs and trunk.

When nursed on a REPOSE mattress and 2 leg protectors the increase in patient comfort was apparent

Bayonet wound to brain.

Agitated and post lctal on admission.

Nursed on a thin foam mattress on the floor for protection. Agitation and safety improved with the addition of a REPOSE mattress, and a cushion utilised as a pillow.

Blast injury paraplegic

Admitted with bilateral heel ulcers 2.2 Stirling scale. Nursed on REPOSE mattress and bilateral heel protectors (discharged to an Iraq Hospital with the equipment) pressure ulcers stabilised whilst in the hospital.

Multiple GSW abdomen, arms and legs

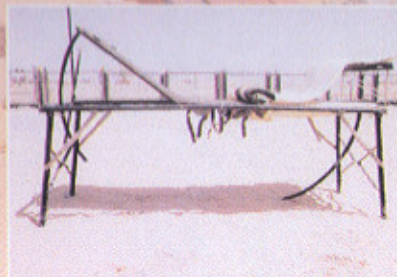
Nursed on a REPOSE mattress until he was mobilising. No signs of pressure damage noted. The patient complained of discomfort when the mattress was re-allocated.

Nursing Solutions based on established standards of essential nursing care

Development of hospital protocols involving:-

- ✦ 30 degree tilt
- ✦ Turning regimes
- ✦ Assessment criteria (Waterlow/Stirling Scale)
- ✦ Adequate nutrition
- ✦ Adequate hydration

The patient contact surface consists of 1cm thick foam on a nylon web base. Neither this nor the G5 stretcher has pressure relieving capability.



Support Surfaces

"A cornerstone in the reduction or elimination of interface pressure is the use of support surfaces"

Ruth Bryant (1992)

Penetrating wound to chest

Shrapnel

Elderly gentleman, malnourished, pressure ulcers to the spinal prominence. Stirling scale of 2.1 on admission, initially nursed on a REPOSE mattress and when his condition improved was provided with a cushion as he squatted all day on his bed.

Bilateral below knee amputation

Mattress and two leg protectors, a cushion was provided for his wheelchair. No skin deterioration noted.

Hindquarter amputation post GSW femur

Failed external fixator, failed traction, infected and toxic. Healed by secondary intention. Poor motivation, initially nursed on REPOSE with a leg protector preserving the integrity of the remaining heel. The cushion was utilised to maintain the 30-degree tilt and support the massive wound. This system worked very well.

GSW and shrapnel wounds to buttocks

The REPOSE cushion used to support the wounds in a 30-degree tilt. The regime aided patient comfort and promoted pressure relief.

The REPOSE System

- ✦ 5 x REPOSE mattress and seat cushions
- ✦ 4 x leg protectors were donated by Frontier Therapeutics for use in the Field Hospital

Manufactured from 2 urethane membranes providing pressure relief and comfort properties

Multidirectional stretch

Vapour permeable

Waterproof and easy to clean

X-ray translucent

Cannot be over inflated

Light and easy to use

No power requirements

Simple pump and container

Not bulky