Surface Support Decision Tree

**Braden Score 18 or less and/or Clinical Signs of Pressure (Blanchable or Non-blanchable Redness)**

**YES**

- Assess patient for additional concerns contributing to potential or actual skin breakdown:
  - weight above 200lbs/bottoming out
  - edema
  - pressure points
  - poor nutrition and dehydration
  - moisture (incontinence or excessive sweating or wound drainage)
  - friction/shear
  - head of bed greater than 30° over large time periods (choosing to watch TV, tube feeds, etc.)
  - pain (uncontrolled)

- Review with Nurse Educator prevention strategies to prevent or treat skin breakdown, and support surfaces related to med condition
- Consult OT/PT to address mobility, activity and or surface support challenges

**NO**

- Use a standard hospital foam mattress (maximum patient weight of 250lbs)
  - OR
  - Therarest mattresses (maximum patient weight of 350lbs)
- Implement basic prevention strategies for skin breakdown:
  - head to toe skin assessment daily
  - head of bed below 30°
  - turn q2 hours
  - off load heels

- Signs of pressure (blanching or non-blanching erythema)?
- Continues to have mobility and activity challenges and/or sensory deficits?

**YES**

Consider a therapeutic surface for patient/resident and communicate plan of care to Interdisciplinary Team. Document treatment choice in Kardex and progress notes.

Patients at risk must be on a turning schedule. Mattresses should fit the beds to reduce risk of entrapment.

**CONSIDER A THERAPEUTIC SURFACE FOR PATIENT/RESIDENT.**

**Pressure Redistribution**
- Therapeutic pressure redistribution mattress
  - Provide appropriate mattress for patients for weight
  - Example: Atmos Air 9000 (max. 500lbs)
  - Atmos Air 9000A (max. 500lbs)
  - Atmos Air FIT (max. 1000lbs)

**Pressure Redistribution, Moisture, Friction, and/or Shear**
- Air mattress
  - Low air loss mattress or overlay
  - Example: Skin IQ sheet (to reduce moisture and friction with microclimate)
  - First Step SELECT

**Pressure Redistribution, Compromised Pulmonary, or Circulatory System**
- Low air loss mattress
  - Percussion/pulsation
  - Rotation
  - Alternating pressure
  - Example: TheraKair VISIO
  - First Step ALL-IN-ONE

**Reactive**

- Atmos Air 9000®
  - Reactive Technology
  - Active Technology
  - Max. 1000lbs
  - Self-adjusting technology with powered alternating pressure clients for less mobile patients/clients

- Atmos Air 9000A®
  - Reactive Technology
  - Max. 500lbs
  - Non-powered pressure redistribution via nine self adjusting air chambers
  - Expandable bed width from 36-48 inches accommodates larger-sized patients

- Atmos Air FIT®
  - Reactive Technology
  - Max. 1000lbs
  - Skin prevention and breakdown
  - Non-powered pressure redistribution via nine self adjusting air chambers
  - "Ultra-Soft" breathable GORE-TEX® strips and fabric sheet

- SKIN IQ
  - Reactive Technology
  - Patients at risk for issues of moisture and/or friction may benefit from its clinical impact
  - Disposable microclimate cover good for 60 day use
  - Single use only

- FIRST STEP® Select
  - Reactive Technology
  - Max. 250lbs
  - Treat existing Stage 1 and Stage 2 pressure ulcers
  - Treat mild or moderate pain
  - Three-section pressure adjustment
  - Rapid, convenient CPR deflation
  - "Ultra-Soft" breathable GORE-TEX® strips and fabric sheet

- FIRST STEP All-In-One®
  - Reactive Technology
  - Max. 400lbs
  - Low air loss therapy, pulsation therapy, turn therapy and smart surface technology
  - Treatment of Stage 3 and Stage 4 pressure ulcers
  - Pulsation mimics the body’s natural movements to improve blood and lymph flow with Nurse assist (15 minutes)
  - Continuous turn therapy

- TheraKair® Visio
  - Max. 300lbs
  - Silent low air loss
  - Pulsation therapy
  - Delivers shear and friction relief GORE-TEX® medical fabric improves blood and lymph flow, edema and pain

**Active**

- Atmos Air 9000®
  - Reactive Technology
  - Max. 500lbs
  - Skin prevention and breakdown
  - Non-powered pressure redistribution via nine air chambers
  - Treat existing Stage 1 and Stage 2 pressure ulcers
  - Treat mild or moderate pain
  - Allows for easy patient transfers to and from bed

**Active**

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