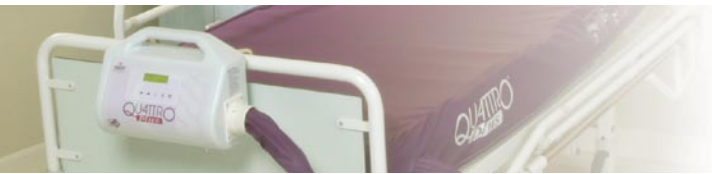


Treating a Patient with a Grade 4 Pressure Ulcer using the QUATTRO PLUS™ Mattress Replacement and B.A.S.E.™ SEQUENTIAL Seating System

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Case Study

John is a 64 year old male, who fractured his right hip whilst on holiday abroad. He spent a week in hospital before returning to the UK to undergo surgery. On admission he was assessed as having a Waterlow



score of 22 (*Waterlow, 1988*) and weighed 107.9kgs. His past medical history included having a left below knee amputation in 1994 due to peripheral vascular disease.

On admission, John had established pressure damage on his sacrum. At Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Trust the European Pressure

Ulcer Advisory Panel grading system is used (*EPUAP, 1999*). John's sacral pressure ulcer was assessed as a Grade 4, measuring 4cms in diameter. To complicate

matters, John's sacral pressure ulcer was infected. Swabs confirmed that MRSA was present and this consequently delayed John's planned surgery.

Despite this, John wanted to maintain his independence and requested to sit out of bed for short periods.



Method

Talley Medical provided the QUATTRO PLUS™ and B.A.S.E.™ SEQUENTIAL alternating mattress and seating system on long term trial. The cushion was connected directly to the mattress utilising the same pump unit, thereby providing 24 hour pressure relief.

Post-operatively, John was able to sit out of bed for short periods, promoting his independence and assisting his recovery.

His sacral pressure ulcer was dressed daily and showed marked improvement after a couple of weeks. Due to the copious amounts of exudate from his ulcer John was reviewed by the dietician and commenced on a high protein diet.

Results

John spent 3 months in hospital. On discharge his sacral pressure ulcer had completely healed. John felt his speedy recovery was due to several factors. The assurance that he was comfortable, slept well and was able to maintain his activities of daily living, in addition to requiring 24 hour pressure relief, had a significant impact on his hospital stay.

Conclusion

Each individual who requires 24 hour pressure relief needs to be assessed to ensure the equipment in place is suitable. In this case the QUATTRO PLUS™ and B.A.S.E.™ SEQUENTIAL cushion aided John in his recovery, both physically and psychologically.