

ALTERNATING PRESSURE AIR MATTRESS

PURPOSE:

1. To maintain adequate circulation
2. To relieve pressure and aid in healing and/or prevention of pressure ulcers.
3. To reduce pain due to pressure.

EQUIPMENT:

1. Air mattress (alternating pressure pad or air mattress).
2. Motor and plastic connection tubing.
3. Large sheet.

PROCEDURE:

1. Place pad directly on mattress (overlay) or on bed frame.
2. Hang motor unit on bed frame below the head of bed.
3. Connect tubing to motor unit connectors and secure.
NOTE: BE SURE TO KEEP TUBING OFF FLOOR.
4. Plug unit to electrical outlet. Red light indicates pump is operating
5. Allow pad to inflate by setting pressure midway between Hi and Low setting. Set to higher setting for heavy resident and lower setting for lighter resident.
6. Place large sheet over pad and tuck under mattress.
NOTE: AVOID USING ADDITIONAL LINEN THAT WILL NEGATE ACTION OF THE AIR MATTRESS. AVOID USE OF SAFETY PINS NEAR AIR MATTRESS.
7. Assist resident onto inflated alternating pressure pad.
8. Complete bed making after positioning resident.
9. Leave resident in comfortable position with call light within reach.
10. When discontinued, take equipment to utility room, cleanse with disinfectant solution, dry well and roll pad.
NOTE: AVOID FOLDING PAD. AVOID GETTING MOISTURE INTO MATTRESS THROUGH TUBING. THE NEED TO TURN AND CHANGE THE RESIDENT'S POSITION CONTINUES WITH THE MATTRESS IN PLACE.