

Implementation Of A Pressure Redistribution Mattress

**Jewish Hospital
Health Alliance of Greater Cincinnati
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Topic

At Jewish Hospital the rental costs for pressure redistribution air mattresses and overlays were exorbitant. Because of the rising costs, Jewish Hospital (part of the Health Alliance of Greater Cincinnati) felt compelled to reduce its dependence on rentals. The goal was to purchase a therapeutic support surface that would improve patient clinical outcomes *and* provide significant cost savings.

Purpose

The Skin Wound Assessment Team (S.W.A.T.) was determined to find:

- ◆ A viable alternative to the rising costs of rental bed therapy
- ◆ A way to improve their clinical outcomes.

The rental expense for specialty beds, mattresses, and overlays for our 200 bed acute-care facility had reached an annual amount of approximately \$300,000 (not counting the capitation pricing).

Through the purchase of new mattresses our goal was to:

- ◆ Reduce the number and severity of healthcare (facility) acquired pressure ulcers.
- ◆ Achieve significant cost savings to justify the new mattress purchase.
- ◆ Reduce time to place at-risk patients on a treatment surface.
- ◆ Improve patient comfort.
- ◆ Enhance patient and staff satisfaction.

Objective

With rental expenses of approximately \$25,000 per month, we felt an obligation to acquire a more cost-effective means of preventing and treating pressure ulcers. Our facility evaluated various mattresses from several manufacturers. Staff examined the patients' skin routinely for any redness or breakdown over pressure points and noted patient comfort levels.



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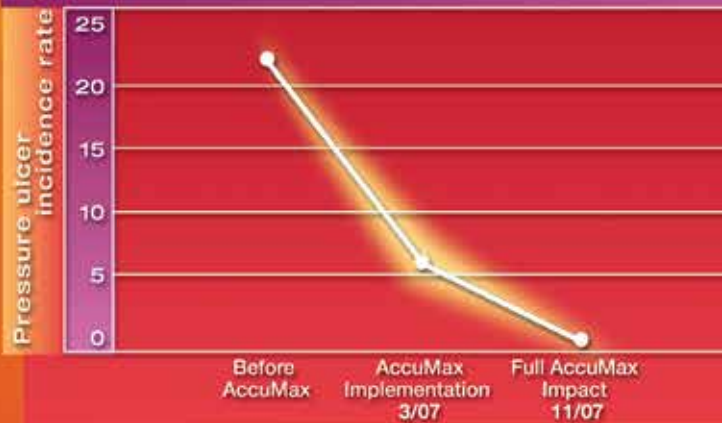
Outcomes

After an extensive evaluation, the staff at Jewish Hospital chose the AccuMax Quantum™ Convertible, an advanced non-powered pressure redistribution system, featuring an inner core integrated with dynamic air-filled cylinders.

In addition to providing non-powered pressure redistribution, it also offered powered, alternating low-pressure therapy with the simple attachment of a control unit. By virtue of its convertibility, it became the standard support surface for prevention as well as treatment for Stage III and IV pressure ulcers.

Results

Decreased facility acquired pressure ulcers by nearly 100%



Average before implementation was **22%** and dropped to **6%** immediately after implementation (a 73% reduction), and nearly a **100%** reduction by **November 2007**.

Significantly Reduced rental bed / overlays used for pressure redistribution therapy

Decreased rental costs in our first year with AccuMax Quantums by approximately **\$15,000** per month with projected total savings of approximately **\$900,000** over the *five-year life* of the new support surfaces.

