

A pressure sore is an area of localised damage to the skin and underlying tissue caused by pressure, shear, friction or a combination of all three. It occurs when the skin and underlying tissues are compressed for a period of time, between the bone and the surface on which the patient is lying. As a result, the blood cannot circulate causing a lack of oxygen and nutrients to the tissue cells, which results in the breakdown of the skin and the onset of pressure sores. Bony prominences are the areas most susceptible to damage (head, shoulders, elbows, sacrum, hips, buttocks, knees and heels), but in reality any area of the body is vulnerable if pressure is not managed, redistributed or relieved. The amount of time it takes for a pressure sore to develop will vary, but with patients at the higher end of the risk spectrum, sores may develop in as little as two hours.

In addition to managing the elements of pressure, shear and friction, OR staff must also be acutely aware of how each of the patient's intrinsic factors (nutrition, diet, medication, age, immobility) may further increase the individual's vulnerability to tissue damage and skin breakdown.

Recent research concludes that up to 25% of all pressure sores begin in surgery¹ and the diagram on the left indicates the areas of the body which are most susceptible. Aside from the pain and distress to the patient, the cost of treatment can be crippling for any healthcare system. In the US, for example, while the initial negative impact of pressure sores "is estimated by several sources at \$1.68 billion or more, the total economic impact of these decubitus ulcers, including lost productivity, litigation awards etc. is reported to reach \$6.8 billion annually"²

“The Basic Treatment of a Decubitus Ulcer is Prevention”(3)



¹ Doctor's Guide Publishing Ltd (1998) "Up to 25% of bed sores begin in surgery" www.pslgroup.com/dg/6158A.htm

² Yale School of Nursing News "Incidence of Pressure Ulcers Reduced by up to 87 Percent Using Skin Care Prevention Systems", (November 7th 2001)

³ Pershall, Linda "Explanation of decubitus ulcers or pressure sores" LDHP Medical Review Services Corporation: www.ldhpm.com

The incidence of OR-acquired pressure sores can be significantly reduced by using the most effective pressure relieving and positioning devices available and by employing a few basic concepts in positioning care. Education of OR staff is paramount:

“Selecting appropriate positioning devices for surgical patients can be challenging. Circulating nurses should select positioning devices that maintain intraoperative positions and minimize potential tissue injuries by absorbing compression forces, redistributing pressure and preventing stretching” [4]

The Trulife Pressurecare Ranges have come as a result of our commitment to continually providing improved levels of pressure care products to both patients and healthcare systems. Vast amounts of in-depth research have gone into the development of each range. Our products offer the widest selection and range of pressure relieving products in the Operating Room today for patients in all surgical procedures.



AZURE - REDEFINING PRESSURECARE

The Azure range is the most advanced and innovative range of products available in the OR today. Each product consists of two independent protective layers that work in combination allowing the moulded products to effectively conform to the individual user's shape in a more contoured and less structured manner, resulting in effective protection against nerve damage and skin breakdown. The new approach by Trulife was to create a product that replicates and acts as an additional layer of protective tissue and skin. Azure has set a whole new standard of protection in the OR.



OASIS ELITE - LIGHTWEIGHT & SUPERIOR PRESSURE RELIEF

The Oasis Elite range combines lightweight foam with silicone Trugel to provide superior pressure relief and patient protection in the OR. The foam and gel work together to conform to the body shape and distribute the weight evenly. Oasis Elite products are more than 50% lighter than comparable gel-only products. Not only do they provide superior pressure relief, but they are designed for easier handling and manipulation by medical personnel during preparation and surgery. Oasis Elite products meet all the requirements for specific positioning in key procedures. The products are lightweight, versatile and provide excellent stability.



OASIS - THE ORIGINAL SILICONE SOLUTION

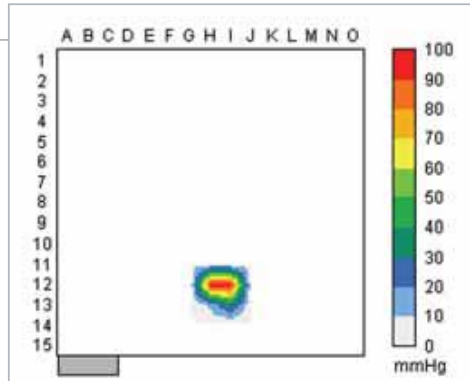
The Oasis range is an extensive range of reusable 100% silicone gel pads and positioners that provide effective protection and comfort to the patient during all surgical procedures. It is the first range of products launched by Trulife in the OR field and remains a market leader in gel pads and positioners.

⁴ "Intraoperative Positioning of Surgical Patients". AORN Journal Publications [1996] Vol. 53, No. 6 [Revised Aug. 2000]

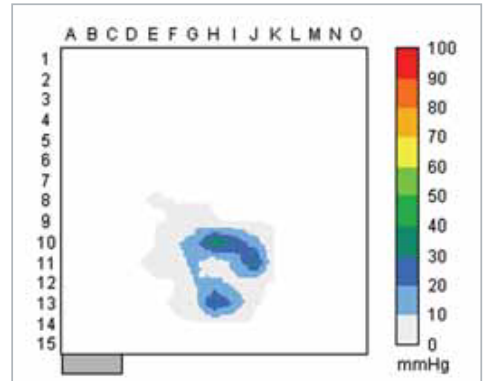
WITHOUT PROTECTION



HEAD

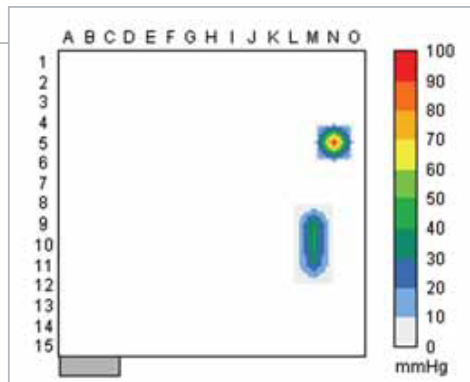


Average Pressure 64.1mmHg

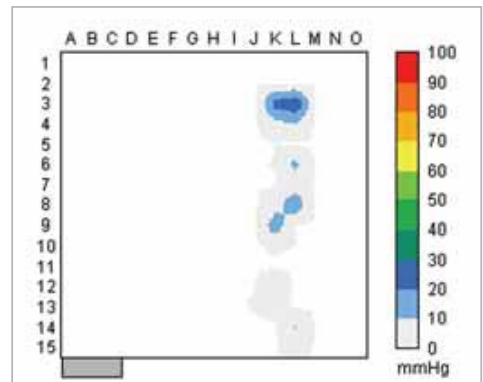


Average Pressure 8.64mmHg

ARMS

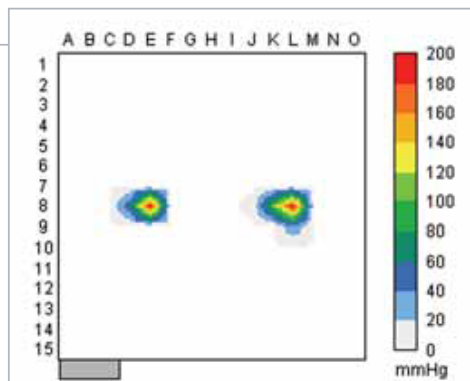


Average Pressure 35.9mmHg

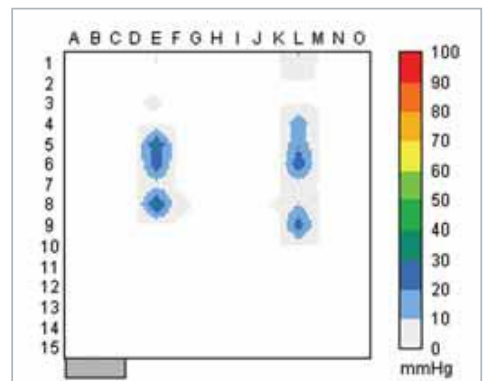


Average Pressure 7.04mmHg

HEELS

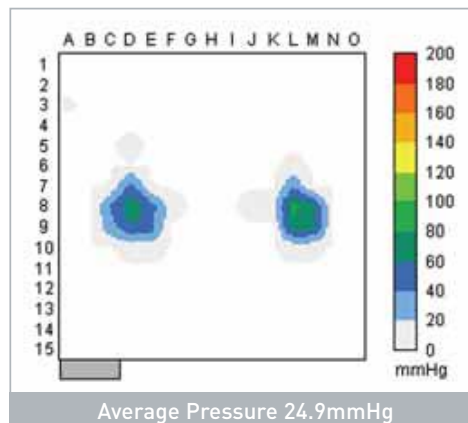
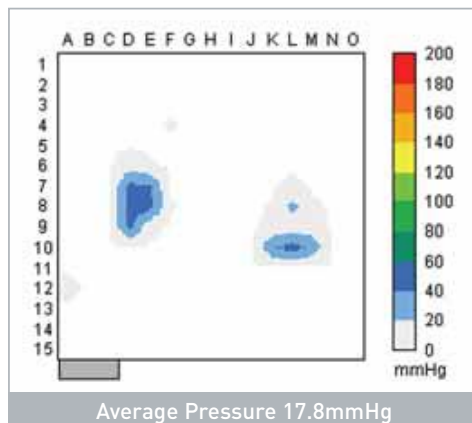
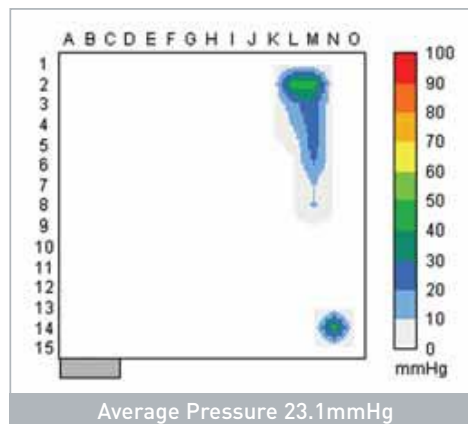
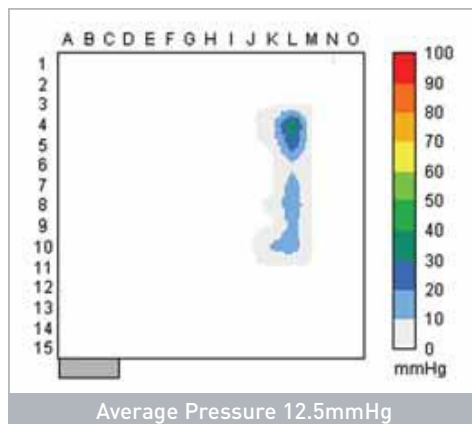
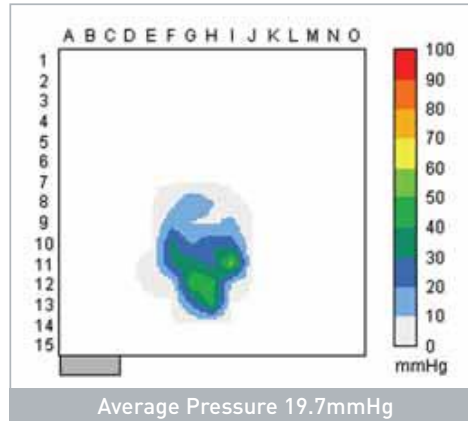
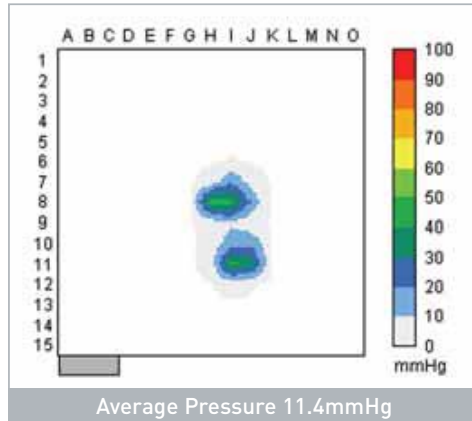


Average Pressure 65.2mmHg



Average Pressure 13.9mmHg

Tested in accordance with protocol for interface pressure management Ref: FSAT.0017



“Any positioning device used to reduce pressure on patient’s body parts and prevent tissue damage should have the documented ability to reduce capillary interface pressures to 32mmHg or less [5]”

⁵ Hendrick, J. & Thomson et al. "Pressure reduction products: making appropriate choices" Journal of Enterostomal Nursing 20 (Nov/Dec 1993)

Each and every product in the Trulife Pressurecare Ranges have been subjected to the most rigorous of durability tests to ensure that they will withstand normal day to day handling in even the busiest surgical environment. In the design phase, tests are conducted in relation to the every day effects of compression, friction, rolling, pulling and tearing.

The Trulife Pressurecare Ranges consist of the most extensive range of gel pads and positioners available and can be used for a variety of applications in practically every surgical procedure.

The products are manufactured under strict ISO 9001:2000 standards and carry the CE mark.

HOW CAN THE PRODUCTS BE CLEANED?

All products can be easily cleaned using standard OR environment detergents. It is not advised to soak the products over long periods. The products are not suitable for use in conjunction with an autoclave.

CAN THE PRODUCTS BE USED IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE PATIENT'S SKIN?

All products are latex-free and non-allergenic. The gel used in the products is a cured silicone and does not flow. It is an inert material and does not support the growth of bacteria.

CAN THE PRODUCTS BE HEATED OR COOLED?

The products can be cooled to -12°C without any adverse effects. As adhesion of velcro can be weakened by low temperatures, products with velcro should be allowed to return to room temperature prior to use.

The products can also be heated to a maximum of 40°C if required and can be safely used in conjunction with heated blankets.

WHAT IF THE PRODUCT GETS CUT?

While a repair kit is available, in the event of the product being cut, it is highly recommended that the product be discarded to avoid risk of infection.

DO THE PRODUCTS CARRY A GUARANTEE?

All products are guaranteed against manufacturing defects for a period of 2 years.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Due to our manufacturing process a slight variation in colour may occur between individual products.
- A tolerance of +/- 5mm is applied to all product dimensions.
- The Position of the Model in certain images is intended to display the products only and may not be surgically accurate in all cases.