### **POSITIONING SYSTEMS:** AN INDISPENSABLE COMPLEMENT TO MATTRESSES

Technical assistance positioning systems are increasingly being used as the ideal complement to mattress choice, as part of the framework for developing and implementing preventive and treatment strategies for pressure ulcers. The reason behind this approach is the number of advantages these systems offer:

- They enable patients to be correctly positioned in order to fully or partially relieve pressure on a risk zone, guaranteeing effective protection and/or assisting with the healing of any existing pressure ulcers.
- They ensure the patient is properly positioned, contributing to a significant reduction in friction and shear forces.
- They rectify severe postural attitudes, many of which are often also involved in break out of pressure ulcers.
- They are simple to use, quick to put in place and provide valuable medical assistance.

### SYST'AM® POSITIONING SOLUTIONS



# DORSAL DECUBITUS SOLUTION

Total or partial pressure relief is recommended for the heels, as well as the elbows and occiput if necessary (depending on the situation). It is also possible to perform a hip abduction.



### EXEMPLES OF POSITIONING SOLUTIONS



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### **SEMI-FOWLER POSITION**

Compared with other decubitus positions (dorsal, semi-seated position at  $30^{\circ}$  and  $60^{\circ}$ , seated position), using this position acts by transferring support to ensure more effective distribution of pressure on the areas away from the heel and sacrum.

In addition, it enables a major reduction in the intensity of shears, which play a significant role in pressure ulcer development.

It is also possible to perform a hip abduction.



### EXEMPLES OF POSITIONING SOLUTIONS



# **30° SEMI-LATERAL POSITION**

The principle behind lateral positioning at 30° is the protection of pressure ulcer risk zones (sacrum, trochanters) by shifting pressure to low-risk zones, with no bone protuberance and well vascularised (postero-external side of the pelvis).



### EXEMPLES OF POSITIONING SOLUTIONS







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# 135° SEMI-VENTRAL POSITION

The lateral position to  $135^{\circ}$  is advisable in case of pressure ulcers affecting the sacral and dorsal areas. A complete relief of pressure points may help heal the lesions.

This position enables nursing technics by means of gentle massages to the rear areas of lower limbs.

Patients find this position comfortable as it induces a relaxation of the spine. Similar to the recovery position, the 135° position helps with the patient's breathing and can be used to comfort patients suffering from acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) as it improves oxygenation during mechanical ventilation. This position also helps evacuate respiratory tract fluids.

### EXEMPLES OF POSITIONING SOLUTIONS





#### POSTURAL AIDS FOR BED: PRECONISATIONS

	POSITIONING STABILITY	COMFORT	PREVENTION & TREATMENT HELP OF PRESSURE ULCER	
POSTURAL EQUIPMENTS MADE OF FOAM	+++	+++	+++	
POSTURAL EQUIPMENTS MADE WITH MICRO-BEADS	++	+	++	
POSTURAL EQUIPMENTS MADE WITH SYNTHETIC FIBRE	+	++	+	



### EXAMPLE OF DAILY **MOBILISATION TIMETABLE**

Despite their proven effectiveness, none of these positioning technics can alone provide a universal and comprehensive solution to the issue of prevention and treatment support for pressure ulcers across all zones at risk. Furthermore, based on recommendations by specialists, best practice consists of establishing a timetable of mobilisation for each patient, based on structured events

throughout the day (washing, meals, naps, activities, medical and paramedical treatments...).







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