SYST'AM® **P905T / SEMI-FOWLER RETRACTION WEDGE**

WEDGE MADE OF HIGH RESILIENCY FOAM

MATERIALS



HR foam



Removable POLYMAILLE® integral cover

NF EN ISO 597 - 1 & 2

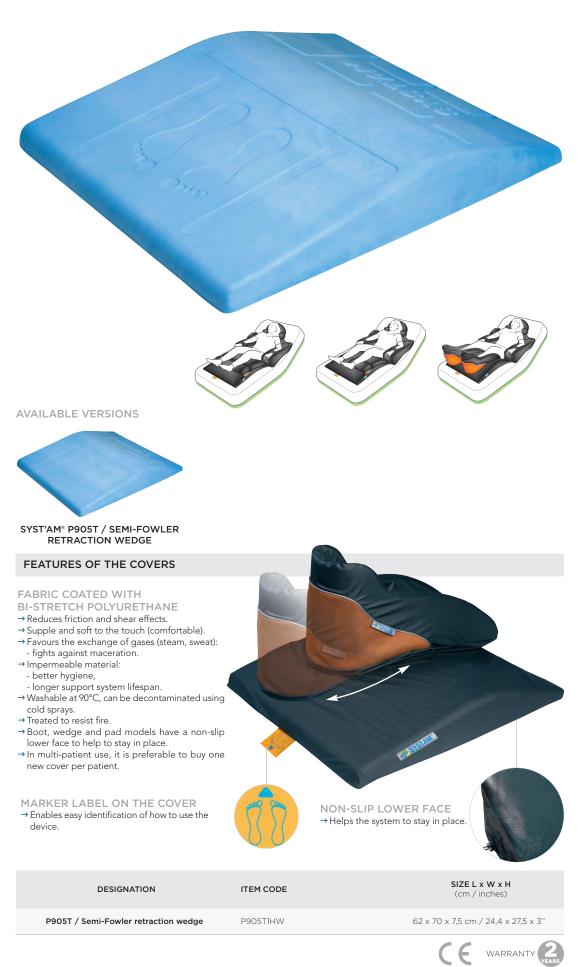
Foam maintenance:

 $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{Cleaning POLYMAILLE}^* \text{ cover:} \\ \hline \texttt{957} \land \fbox \\ \hline \texttt{0} \land \checkmark \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array}$

INDICATIONS

 The semi-fowler retraction wedge is recommended for the prevention and resiliency foam treatment help of pressure ulcer, especially for patients with genu flessum.

• Prevention of pressure ulcers on the sacrum area.





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2542DV10 - 2408

SYST'AM® P905T / SEMI-FOWLER RETRACTION WEDGE



HIGH RESILIENCY FOAM

→ Its mechanical properties (elasticity, flexibility) and high density (40kg/m³) enable positions to be maintained over time, enabling effective treatment.

- **EFFICIENCY OF THE SEMI-FOWLER POSITION**
- → Facilitates the relief of pressure on the heel and sacrum areas, by transferring pressure to the calves and thighs (zones at low risk of pressure ulcer formation).
- \rightarrow Ensures patient stability and reduces "forward sliding", limiting the effects of friction and shears which play a major role in the process of pressure ulcer formation.

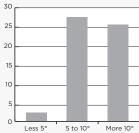
COMPATIBILITY AND SYNERGY WITH SYST'AM® HEEL SUPPORTS

→ The use of the retraction wedge coupled with SYST'AM® heel supports enables the heel area to be completely or partially relieved of pressure, giving optimal protection or effective support in the treatment of existing pressure ulcers.



RELEVANCE OF THE SEMI-FOWLER POSITION

Stiffness and oppositional hypertonia in geriatrics, factors to be considered in postural strategy for pressure ulcer prevention



Angle measurements for articular relaxation of the knees in the dorsal decubitus position 56 measurements, average age of 82 (fig. 1) The use of positioning equipments in bed is extremely common for stabilising and adjusting postural attitude or enabling an activity to be carried out in favourable conditions (meals, leisure activities...).

Medical staff generally use widely available supports (pillows, bolsters) which have limited effectiveness.

Postural attitudes linked to retraction of the knees are frequently observed in geriatric patients. The issue of choosing supportive or corrective positioning is commonly addressed and professional

⁵⁶ measurements, average age of 82 (fig. 1) practices vary. The development of moderate retraction in the hamstrings is physiologically linked to ageing; angle measurements for elderly patients in the relaxed dorsal decubitus position show a high frequency of flexed attitudes.

Identical results are found in a study carried out by Mollinger on 112 patients in a nursing home, where only 25% of patients were observed to have knee extension measurements of between 0 and 5°. Therefore, even when a decision has been made to use a positioning technique, the pursuit of a full extension is generally an anti-physiological error.

A distinct feature of the study by Mollinger was that patients with upper flexions of 20% were found to display oppositional hypertonia more significantly than other patients.

It is in these situations that positioning programmes for the extension of lower limbs are most doomed to failure as they contribute to the increase of oppositional hypertonia. Certain positions can then trigger tissue lesions (pressure ulcers at the Achilles tendon), and increased levels of agitation, confusion, pain and discomfort.

The semi-fowler position: proven efficiency for protecting the heel area and other areas...

The use of positioning to relieve pressure on the heel area combined with a knee angulation support offers the most effective results. These techniques display a gradual reduction in oppositional hypertonia and stiffness of the knees. The "semi-fowler" position can be obtained using the "retraction wedge" positioning system combined with a pressure release system for the heel area. Research into the semi-fowler position shows that this position displays the most effective distribution of sacrum and heel pressure compared with all other decubitus positions (decubitus dorsal, semiseated position (30° and 60°) and seated position). This position also helps to reduce the intensity of shears, which play a significant role in the development of pressure ulcers.

Positioning for bed activities

When a bed head is straightened for meals or leisure activities, it is noted that patients often slide from their position leading to difficulties performing the intended activity, discomfort and often the need for medical staff to perform handling techniques. Using a "semi-fowler" positioning system stops sliding and shears, and enables a stable and comfortable semi-seated position in the bed.

