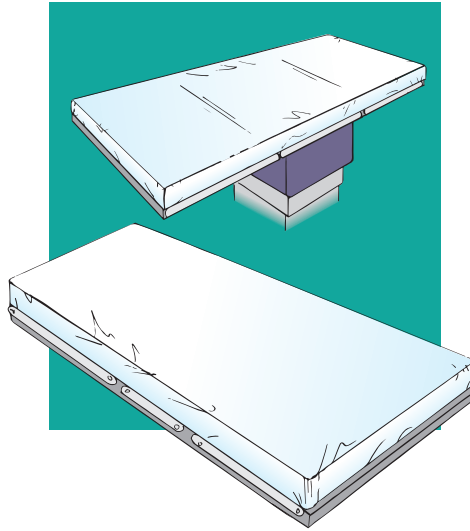


HOW TO SELECT SUPPORT SURFACES FOR PREVENTION OF PRESSURE ULCERS



No one support surface fits all patients!!!

- Look at your patient population
 - Weight, patient risk, length of procedure, co-morbidities
- Review the most common procedures in your facility
- What patient position is used most frequently for the majority of patients for a specific procedure?
- Review the type of support surfaces a patient is placed on preoperatively and the length of time on that support surface.
- Know the incidence of postoperative pressure ulcer development at your facility.

Make your decision

- Review the literature and research related to the support surface that best fits your patients' needs
- Look at the financial impact of each surface, are you replacing the surface or the whole bed?
- Ask your colleagues at other facilities what types of support surfaces are used for their surgical patients