

Pressure relieving cushion and cushion cover compliance: Audit Tool for Care Homes

This Audit Tool aims to identify pressure relieving cushions and cushion covers in poor condition. Cushions and cushion covers in a poor condition are known to be a source of healthcare associated infection. Refer to 'Safe management of care equipment Policy for Care Home settings'.

Action	- Each pressure relieving cushion and cushion cover should be reviewed on a regular basis, which should be based upon a local risk assessment, e.g. weekly, monthly. Complete sections 1 and 2 below for each pressure relieving cushion and cushion cover. - Cushions should be enclosed in a waterproof cover, preferably with an integral zip fastener, to facilitate inspections of the surfaces. - For audit purposes, all cushion covers should be numbered for identification, rather than identifying the cushion by the location, as cushions are often moved between locations. - In the event of cushion or cushion cover failure, an 'IPC Action Plan' should be produced and reviewed regularly. - Completed Audit Tools and Action Plans should be kept locally for good practice assurance and as evidence for CQC inspections.

Name of establishment		Audit completed by	
		Job title	
Unit name (if applicable)		Date	

Cushion number and location		1. Criteria for pressure relieving cushion covers							If the answers to any of the questions are yes, the pressure relieving cushion cover has failed and must be replaced	
		Is there a breach in the integrity of the cushion cover, e.g. torn or damaged?		Is the cushion cover fastening compromised, e.g. is the zip or any other cover fastening device broken?			Does the cushion cover have any staining outside or inside that cleaning cannot remove?			
		Yes	No	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	Fail	Pass
1.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Name of establishment		Audit completed by	
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Room number/cushion location		2. Criteria for pressure relieving cushions						
		Undo the removable cover. Is the cushion wet, soiled or stained on either side? (Not applicable to sealed cushion covers without a zip.)			Does the cushion have an offensive odour?		If the answers to any of the questions are yes, the pressure relieving cushion has failed and must be replaced	
		Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No		
1.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7.		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
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