

# Infection Control Protocol- Therapeutic Support Surfaces



Medical literature shows that damaged and wet (soiled) mattresses can be a source of contamination during infection outbreaks.

One piece of equipment in the healthcare environment that has largely been under appreciated as a potential source of contamination is the foam therapeutic support surfaces.

Follow these easy steps to keep your support surfaces compliant



## Clean and Disinfect

- ▶ Remove bedding and clean from top to bottom both sides of the mattress with a diluted detergent solution or soapy water\*
- ▶ EPA Approved disinfectants go to <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>
- ▶ Clean and disinfect your support surface between patient use and regularly during extended stays\*

\*per the manufacturer guidelines & facility protocol



## Inspect: don't judge a mattress by its cover

- ▶ Regularly check each mattress for any visible signs of damage or wear such as **cuts, tears, cracks, pinholes, snags, or stains**
- ▶ Check for 'bottoming out' - NPIAP defines bottoming out as the state of support surface deformation beyond critical immersion whereby effective pressure redistribution is lost 2019 NPIAP Pg. 379
- ▶ Remove the cover and check for any staining or damage on the interior foam (fluid ingress into the interior foam, stains, rips or damage)



## Remove and replace

- ▶ Remove any damaged, worn or visibly stained hospital mattress
- ▶ Immediately replace any mattress covers with visible signs of stains, damage or wear to reduce the risk of infection to patients



## Maintain

- ▶ Document results- If its not documented it did not happen!
- ▶ Develop a schedule for regular cleaning, disinfecting and auditing of all support surfaces
- ▶ Invacare recommends internal and external parts of the mattress be inspected every 3 months\*

\*Resource: pg 18. user manual excel, premier, glissando

Outcomes by Design- request consultation virtually or onsite <https://outcomesbydesign.invacare.com/request-a-consultation>  
<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/hospital-beds/covers-hospital-bed-mattresses-learn-how-keep-them-safe>

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