

# Use and Care of Static Pressure Relieving Cushions

## Patient Information

Hospital at Home Team

Author ID: JD  
Leaflet Ref: HAH 005  
Version: 3  
Leaflet title: Use and Care of Static Pressure Relieving Cushions  
Last review: March 2021  
Expiry Date: March 2023

## Introduction

You have been identified as being at risk of developing pressure sores or you may already have a low grade pressure sore. In order to protect your skin as much as possible you have been provided with a static pressure relieving cushion. You should read this leaflet alongside the leaflet 'Pressure Ulcer prevention'.

## How static cushions work

There are various types of static cushion; therefore this leaflet contains only general information.

The cushion is used to reduce the risk of pressure sore formation.

The cushion works by providing an even weight distribution and conforms to the shape of your body. It also protects the bony areas of your body.

## Use of your cushion

- Do not use on riser recliner chairs.
- Do not use the cushion on a wheelchair, unless instructed by the Wheelchair Service.
- Place the cushion with its flatter side on the seat of your chair.
- Do not cover with sheets or additional continence products as this reduces the effectiveness of the cushion.

## General advice

- You must change your position regularly (every 2 hours is recommended) when you are sitting on the cushion, or more frequently if possible. This relieves pressure and helps to prevent pressure ulcers.
- If you are unable to reposition yourself, this must be done by your carers.

## Care and cleaning instructions

The cover should only be wiped down with a damp cloth and warm soapy water. Dry with a disposable paper towel or allow to air dry.

If the cover becomes damaged or ripped then contact 'the Hospital at Home' nurse who will arrange a replacement for you.

## Follow-up

The cushion is on loan. After 4 to 6 weeks the Hospital at Home Team nurse will assess your need and either remove or re-issue the cushion. A referral to the District Nursing Service will be made if required.

## Contact information

If you have any questions or queries, which we have not covered in this leaflet, please contact **Hospital at Home Team** telephone: 01942 481221 Monday to Sunday 8am to 8:30pm.

---

## Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends and carers.

## Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager  
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary  
Wigan Lane  
Wigan WN1 2NN

---

## Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the pros and cons of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



---

## How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use and store the information we hold about you, please take a look at our “how we use your information” leaflet which can be found on the Trust website: <https://www.wwl.nhs.uk>

---

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille and other languages upon request. For more information please ask in the department/ward.

---

© Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
All rights reserved. Not to be reproduced in whole or in part without the permission of the copyright owner.

**Call 111 first when it's less urgent than 999.**



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

SILVER AWARD

Proudly supporting those who serve.

Phone: 0808 802 1212  
Text: 81212  
[www.veteransgateway.org.uk](http://www.veteransgateway.org.uk)

