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John is a moving and handling specialist OT working as an associate of UK Therapy Services. John currently provides commercial consultancy, expert training and clinical assessment within his specialist field.

In this month's feature, John explores a more affordable bed positioning system

OT Approved

MIP Swift Ultraslide System



Positioning patients in bed to aid with personal care, toileting or making them comfortable can be very difficult. The number of plus size/bariatric patients we are seeing being treated in our hospitals and homes is increasing. This often presents carers and nursing staff with moving and handling challenges, particularly when using slide sheets with specialist airflow pressure mattresses or working at a low level. Often just getting slide sheets in position is challenge enough.

Bed positioning systems have been used in the community for some time to tackle this. Due to costs however, they are often considered much later; for example, single slide sheets often must be tried first and ruled out, even though you may suspect it will be troublesome. The MIP Swift Ultraslide System retails at only £30 (bariatric size) - much cheaper than more established products on the market. This is a washable product, which is ideal for community use, but due to its relatively low cost, it could be used in hospitals and be considered single patient use and disposable.

The MIP Swift Ultraslide System has been

put through pressure mapping tests by the manufacturers and has high breathability, which reduces the build-up of heat and moisture.

I recently had the opportunity to try out the MIP Swift Ultraslide System and have recommended its use to colleagues in the community as an alternative to other positioning systems. In practice, I found the MIP Swift Ultraslide System was just as effective at moving patients onto their side and up and down the bed as existing more expensive systems. I would definitely recommend this product to trial with a suitable patient and as a great tool for any OT to have access to, potentially something community equipment stores could keep on the shelves and hospital wards in their store room.

store.miplnc.info

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