

IMPROVING BED MOBILITY AND ENABLING DISCHARGE

with the SIBA System® and HD Deluxe Wedges

BACKGROUND

The Occupational Therapy team at North Tyneside General Hospital's Community Response Service explored the use of the HD Deluxe Wedges and SIBA® in-situ sheet system to support patients who required significant assistance with bed mobility.

Many patients who are nursed in bed experience anxiety during repositioning, are unable to assist due to cognitive or physical decline, or require multiple carers for moving and handling.

These challenges can delay discharge and increase the physical demands on care staff. Across several complex cases, the SIBA sheet system and HD wedges helped reduce manual handling effort, improve patient comfort and in some cases significantly reduce the number of carers required for repositioning.

THE CHALLENGE

Three patients admitted to the hospital had complex needs that prevented them from mobilising or engaging in rehabilitation:

Patient A – admitted following a fall with increasing confusion and refusal to get out of bed.

Patient B – admitted with a fall and knee injury alongside Lewy body dementia, resulting in severe sleepiness and inability to engage in therapy.

Patient C – admitted with respiratory illness and infected legs, with a history of morbid obesity and complex behavioural needs. Repositioning required five staff members.

For all three patients, discharge planning was difficult due to the level of assistance required for repositioning and personal care.



North
Tyneside
Council



Associate

Occupational Therapy Team

North Tyneside General Hospital's
Community Response Service

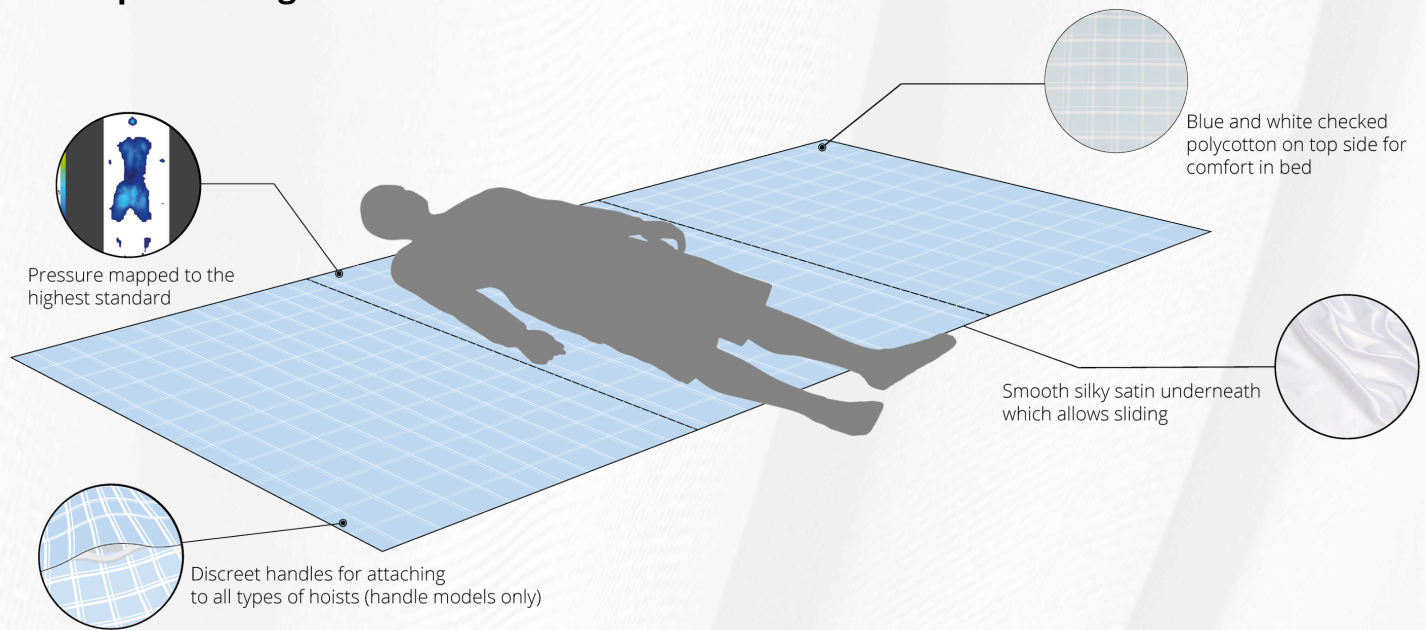


THE SOLUTION

Occupational therapists of the Trust trialled the SIBA in-situ slide sheet system alongside Hospital Direct Deluxe wedges to support repositioning in bed.

The equipment allowed carers to reposition patients smoothly and with significantly reduced effort while maintaining comfort and stability in a side-lying position.

In the most complex case, the introduction of a heavy-duty SIBA sheet and wedges reduced repositioning from five staff members to two.



THE RESULTS

Across the cases, the equipment delivered clear benefits:

- Reduced moving and handling effort for carers
- **Improved patient comfort** during repositioning
- Reduced anxiety and agitation during care tasks
- In some cases, the **number of carers required was reduced**
- Supported safe discharge home with packages of care
- On one occasion, the equipment **prevented early admission to 24-hour residential care**, enabling the patient to return and stay at home safely.

IMPACT

By simplifying repositioning and reducing manual handling demands, the SIBA sheet system and HD Deluxe wedges helped clinical teams deliver safer care and remove barriers to discharge.

For Occupational Therapists and care teams, the equipment provided a practical solution for supporting patients who are nursed in bed while improving both patient experience and staff safety.