

Patient information

Pressure Mapping Clinic Appointment – What will Happen

Therapies

You have been invited to attend a pressure mapping appointment to enable you and your Therapist to manage your long-term pressure needs.

What will happen at the appointment?

You will be taken into a private room where the equipment used for pressure mapping will be set up.

The equipment consists of a laptop computer connected to a pressure sensitive mat containing sensors which will be placed on your wheelchair seat.

You will be asked to transfer, or will be assisted to transfer, from your wheelchair a number of times.

This is to enable readings can be taken whilst you are seated:

- on a firm surface
- on your existing cushion if you have one
- on various cushions that may meet your clinical needs

This process will enable us to compare the performance of each cushion for you.

Staff will talk to you throughout the assessment to find out whether you find the different cushions tried comfortable.

Pressure mapping is not an exact science, but it will help you and your Occupational Therapist to choose:

- A cushion you find comfortable and is suitable for your needs
- A Cushion suitable for your level of clinical risk, that enables you to do your daily activities as safely as possible
- A Cushion which appears to best distribute your body weight.

It may be necessary to adjust the footplates and armrests on your wheelchair to suit the different heights of cushions.

The Occupational Therapist may need to see any pressure areas/dressings. If this is necessary, then it will be done as discreetly as possible to maintain your dignity as this is important to all of us.

You will be shown how the different cushions have mapped during the assessment and the findings will be discussed with you.

Your Occupational Therapist will also show you how changes in your posture, how you sit and move within your wheelchair, can affect your pressure distribution.

The information gathered and a copy of the mapping session will be attached to the case notes for future reference.

Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future.

Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Further information

If you have any further questions / concerns, please contact us on
Tel: 0151 529 8744 Text phone number: 18001 0151 529 8744 and we will be happy to help.

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All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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