

## Comfort and Dignity: The Benefits of the MMO 8000 Bed & TurnCair 1000 Surface for a Bed Bound Patient

- ↑ **Easy upright positioning for improved respiratory management**
- ↓ **Reduced moving and handling risks for staff**
- ↑ **Increased comfort and independence**

### Introduction

Fiona\* (age 54) was admitted to hospital with severe epigastric pain. Pancreatitis was diagnosed. She was also short of breath with low blood oxygen saturation and was commenced on oxygen therapy. She weighed 125kg and had the following comorbidities:

- **Type 2 diabetes**
- **Chronic kidney disease (stage 4)**
- **Oedema**
- 

Past medical history:

- **Dep vein thrombosis**
- **Total knee replacement**

Prior to admission Fiona walked with the assistance of carers at home, but on admission she was bed bound due to severe pain and her unstable condition. Fiona's skin was intact on admission, but oedematous and fragile, so she was at risk of developing damage. She was initially nursed on a standard width bed and alternating pressure mattress.

*\*Fiona is not the patient's real name*

### Clinical Challenges

Fiona was short of breath and in severe pain. She was uncomfortable and not surprisingly had high levels of anxiety. Keeping her upright whilst managing her pain was vital to her management and well-being. The initial bed she was given wasn't wide enough for her, making sitting upright difficult and increasing her discomfort.

Fiona was too unwell to get out of bed. Her already fragile skin was at risk, not helped by her initial bed and mattress which restricted her in-bed mobility. Because she was bed bound, it was important that she was kept as mobile as possible within the bed to prevent complications of immobility and worsening of existing comorbidities.



Fiona initially needed a lot of care, and it was important for the staff that this could be carried out safely to reduce moving and handling risks.

#### Medstrom's Clinical Advisor commented:

"I was asked to assess Fiona once she had stabilised enough to be moved to a different bed and mattress. She said she wanted something **more comfortable** that would give her **more independence**. Although she had carers help her at home, she didn't like having everything done for her, especially now her pain was more under control."

### Patient Objectives

- **Treat pancreatitis and low blood oxygenation**
- **Pain control**
- **Prevent skin damage**
- **Maximise comfort**
- **Improve independence to preserve dignity**

### Introduction of Medstrom's Bariatric Equipment Package

A bariatric bed and surface were provided to help maintain Fiona in an upright position and prevent skin breakdown, complications of immobility and exacerbation of comorbidities:

**MMO 8000 Bed:** This bed has a platform width of 110cm (compared to approximately 90cm for a standard bed). Its unique elliptical backrest articulation mimics spine elongation as a person goes from a supine to sitting position. A cardiac chair position is achieved with one button, with the backrest and knee section rising simultaneously.

The nett result of this is that the patient isn't pushed down the bed as they sit up. The benefits are an excellent upright position, achieved with no abdominal crunching, and zero heel travel for reduced pressure ulcer risk.

In addition, the high height of the platform (83cm) provides a safe height for 98% of UK adults to work from without twisting or stooping, reducing manual handling risks.

**TurnCair 1000 Low Air Loss Surface:** This provides a high specification of support surface for pressure redistribution, plus a TurnAssist feature that enables safe and dignified handling of patients and aids respiratory management. The low air loss therapy helped to keep Fiona's skin drier and cooler, preventing further skin breakdown and helping existing damage to heal. The TurnAssist feature also helped clinical staff to move Fiona more easily when carrying out care, reducing moving and handling risks.

Following the equipment installation and simultaneous training, it was much easier to position Fiona in the bed, and to use the controls for in-bed mobilisation. Initially Fiona felt that the surface was a little too soft, so the comfort setting was adjusted which solved the problem.



## Fiona commented to Medstrom's Clinical Advisor:

"I'm **much more comfortable** on this bed and mattress. It's **easier to move** in the bed and the mattress is really comfortable now you've adjusted it to make it a bit firmer. I like that **I can move myself** using the bed controls"

Fiona's condition continued to improve. She was medically fit for discharge nine days after admission. All objectives for her had been met; her pancreatitis was improving, and she no longer required oxygen. Her pain was well controlled and her bed and surface kept her comfortable, gave her some independence whilst bed bound and allowed staff to care for her in a way that respected her dignity and choices.



**Acute conditions improved**



**Skin intact**



**Dignity maintained**

## Summary

The provision of the bariatric bed and surface was an instant improvement for Fiona's physical and mental well-being. Early in-bed mobilisation was very important to prevent complications of immobility developing, but that had been challenging on the original bed and surface she'd been given. It clearly demonstrates the importance of early provision of the right equipment; although there were no long-term physical negative consequences for Fiona from the original equipment, psychologically she would have benefited from the bariatric equipment from admission.

Fiona hadn't got out of bed during her hospital stay but a care package was put in place for her to continue her rehabilitation at home. She stood to transfer from her bed to a wheelchair on discharge without any issues.

**Fiona commented shortly before discharge:** "I've **slept well** on this bed and mattress – much better than on the other ones. I'm really **looking forward to going home** now, but **I'll miss this mattress!** I might look into **getting one at home**. Thank you for all the help you've given me, I appreciate you regularly checking I've been OK."



**Well-being**



**Comfort**



**Independence**

**To discover more about Medstrom's range of solutions for dignified plus-size patient care and enhanced support for caregivers, contact Medstrom's Bariatric Product Specialists 24/7/365 on:**

**UK: 0845 371 1717 or [info@medstrom.co.uk](mailto:info@medstrom.co.uk) IRE: 01 686 9487 or [info@medstrom.ie](mailto:info@medstrom.ie)**