

# Choice and Dignity: The MMO 8000 bed and TurnCair 1000 surface helped a patient who was non-compliant with mobilisation

- ↑ In-bed mobilisation, reducing complications
- ↓ Reduced moving and handling risks for staff
- ↑ Patient choice and dignity respected

## Introduction

Michael\* (age 65) was admitted to hospital for treatment of worsening leg ulcers and cellulitis. Other than this, his skin was intact. He weighed 209kg and had the following comorbidities:

- Depression
- Hypothyroidism
- Asthma
- Hypertension

Prior to admission Michael was able to mobilise short distances at home. He had refused care packages previously when offered them. On admission he was able to stand unaided but didn't want to walk.

Michael was suffering from severe depression and declined any offers of help to get him more mobile during his hospital stay; he wished to stay in bed. He was initially nursed on an emergency trolley.

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



## Clinical Challenges

Because Michael wouldn't get out of bed, he was at very high risk of developing complications of immobility, including exacerbating current skin problems and developing new ones. It was important that he was kept as mobile as possible within the bed, and that all equipment provided was able to assist with this.

Respecting Michael's wish to remain in bed was extremely important. A key challenge was giving him the best possible care in these circumstances, in a way that maintained his dignity and respected his choices.

Michael 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 assessed Michael while he was still in Accident and Emergency on a **standard width trolley**. He didn't look at all comfortable and the **surface was too narrow** for him. I arranged for a **suitable bed and surface** to be delivered to the ward he was going to. He stood to transfer himself from the trolley to the bed but had already told me that **once he was in the bed he wished to stay there**. I was pleased that the **staff contacted me early** - as soon as they knew he was going to be admitted; I believe a **standard width bed and surface would have been detrimental to his care, safety and recovery.**"

## Patient Objectives

- **Treat acute conditions**
- **Provide care and reduce manual handling risks whilst respecting the patient's choices**
- **Prevent complications of immobility**
- **Maintain dignity**

## Introduction of Medstrom's Bariatric Equipment Package

A bariatric bed and surface were provided to help prevent complications of immobility, further skin breakdown and exacerbation of comorbidities. The equipment was selected to give as much in-bed mobility as possible whilst also reducing moving and handling risks for caregivers:

**MMO 8000 Bed:** This bed has a platform width of 110cm (a standard bed is about 20cm narrower). A cardiac chair position is achieved with one button, with the backrest and knee section rising simultaneously. This helped prevent pushing Michael down the bed, reducing the need for manual handling and repositioning. The upright chair position provides gravitational benefits to the body, helping to decrease complications of immobility.

The bed controls can be used to achieve frequent, multiple positional changes without having to perform manual handling tasks. This benefits the patient, especially a person like Michael who doesn't want a lot of active care. It also benefits the staff by reducing moving and handling.

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. The low air loss therapy helped to keep Michael's skin drier and cooler, preventing skin breakdown. The TurnAssist feature also helped clinical staff to move Michael more easily, reducing moving and handling risks and allowed him to sleep more restfully with less interventions required.

Michael chose to remain bed for the whole time he was in hospital. He allowed personal care to be carried out including dressing of his leg ulcers. The bed and surface combination helped to prevent further complications and allowed clinical staff to care for him more safely, with reduced injury risks.

Michael remained in hospital for a total of 12 days. The objectives for him had been met; his leg ulcers were improving, although they still needed dressing. He agreed that district nurses could visit his home after discharge to do this. Further complications of immobility had been prevented and he had been safely cared for according to his wishes, maintaining his dignity.



**Acute conditions improved**



**Complications prevented**



**Dignity maintained**

## Summary

The provision of suitable bariatric equipment early in Michael's hospital stay was extremely important because of his choice to remain in bed. Standard sized equipment would have restricted his movement, reduced comfort and posed safety risks for him and his caregivers.

A particular challenge when caring for Michael was respecting his wishes to remain in bed whilst ensuring, as much as possible, that he didn't develop further complications as a result of remaining bed bound. Both the bed and surface were instrumental in achieving this. Maintaining Michael's dignity and respecting his choices were central to the person-centred care he received.

Shortly before discharge, the ward manager commented:

"The equipment provided for Michael made looking after him **much easier** and less stressful than it could have been if we hadn't had it. It meant he got to **choose** how to be cared for, which is his absolute right, in a way that kept **both him and us safe.**"



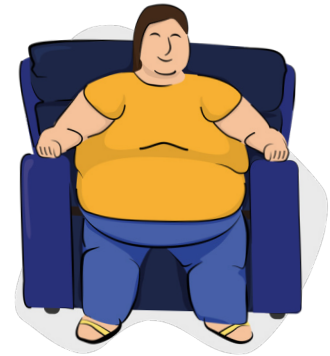
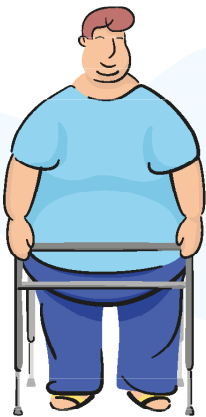
Choice



Respect



Dignity



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:

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