

Skin Protection During Patient Positioning

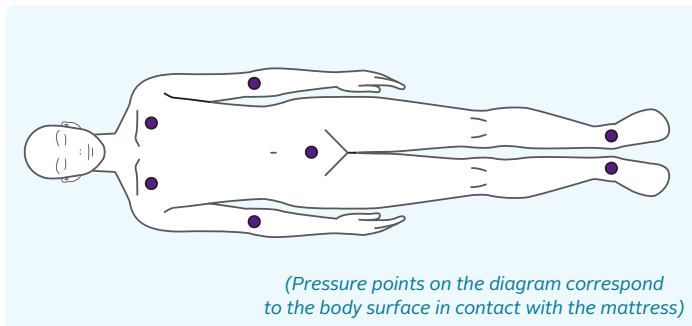
AQUACEL[®] Foam Pro and AQUACEL[®] Foam dressings are designed to protect the skin from breakdown caused by moisture and shear forces when used as part of a protocol of care.*

Clinicians have used prone positioning as a treatment modality for patients with Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome for more than 40 years¹, and the procedure has seen a resurgence during the COVID-19 pandemic.

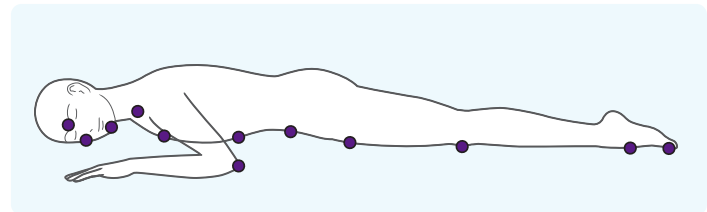
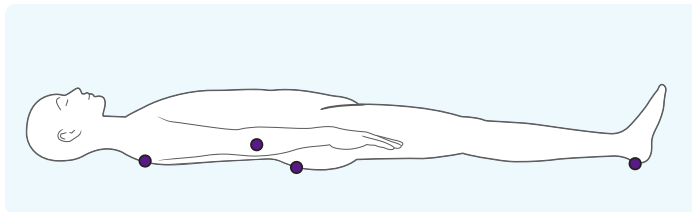
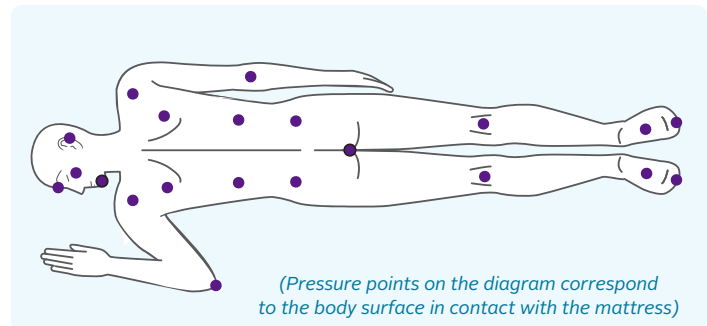
Pressure injuries are a complication of prone positioning that may also occur with supine positioning in these patients.¹⁻³

PRESSURE POINTS

Supine Position



Prone Position



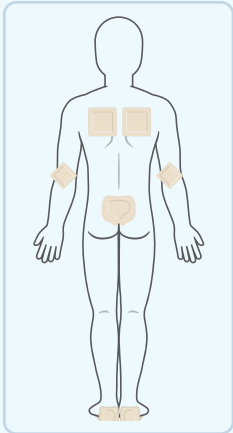
GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS⁴

- Based on patient assessment, select the appropriate size and shape of the dressing(s).
- Cleanse the area to protect with an appropriate cleanser and dry the skin.
- Assess all pressure points prior to proning (anterior surfaces), and prior to returning to supine position (posterior surfaces).
- Apply multilayer foam dressings for skin protection and moisture management over pressure points on the face, torso, and anterior legs during proning, and on the occiput, shoulders, elbows, sacrum, and heels while supine.
- Use skin barrier/protectant prior to application and during wear time of multilayer foam dressings to improve skin protection from moisture.
- Avoid applying multiple layers of foam dressings over an area which may cause pressure to the area.
- Secure all tubes and devices away from the skin; protect surrounding skin with prophylactic dressings and bridge areas with positioning devices.
- When alternating arm position using the freestyle swimming technique, regularly assess skin integrity of the surfaces of the arms and face that are in contact with the mattress.
- While the patient is in the prone position, make small shifts in body position and reposition head every 2-4 hours or as required by the patient.
- Inspect skin under dressing(s) and document skin condition according to facility protocol.
- Change dressing(s) according to facility protocol (7-day max wear time) or if stool and/or urine migrates underneath the dressing.
- Document all skin assessment and protection interventions.
- When dressing application is complete, smooth down all areas of the adhesive border.
- Initial and date the dressing(s) upon application.
- Consult the interdisciplinary team as needed for additional guidance.

*As demonstrated in vitro

SUGGESTED DRESSING PLACEMENT⁴⁻⁷

Supine Position



Guidelines for Head, Torso and Lower Body Dressing Use:

- Elbows: 4x4 (2)
- Scapulae: 6x6 (2)
- Sacrum: Sacral (1)
- Heels: Heel (2)

Supine Position Dressing Count

Dressing Size	Quantity
4" X 4"	2
6" X 6"	2
Sacral	1
Heel	2

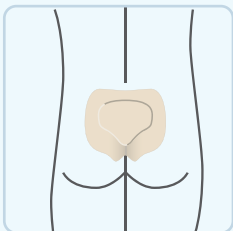
Heel Dressing

1. Peel back one side of the clear liner and remove. Centering the dressing over the heel, attach the dressing upper adhesive border to the skin on one side of the Achilles tendon area.
2. Remove the other half of the clear liner and secure the other side of the upper dressing to the skin.
3. Fold the dressing over the bottom of the heel, and accommodating for the heel curvature, attach and smooth down the adhesive border along the edges.

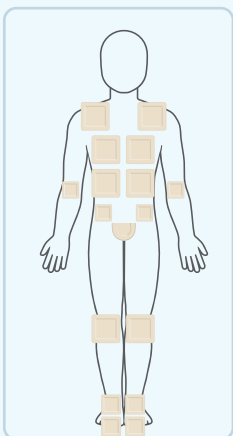


Sacrum Dressing

1. Remove the central release liner first; holding the dressing at its edges, fold it in half with the non-adhesive sides touching.
2. Place the inside fold into the natal cleft.
3. Remove the dressing liner on the side closest to you and smooth down the adhesive borders of the dressing.
4. Remove the remaining dressing liner, pulling it away, and attach the remaining adhesive border of the dressing onto the patient's skin.
5. Gently smooth down the adhesive edges, removing any wrinkles.



Prone Position



Guidelines for Torso and Lower Body Dressing Use:

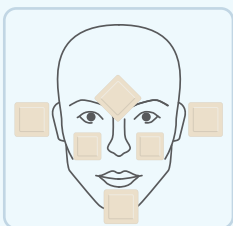
- Elbows: 4x4 (2)
- Clavicles/Shoulders: 6x6 (2)
- Chest/Breasts: 6x6 (2)
- Genitalia/Penis: Sacral (1)
- Iliac Crests: 4x4 (2)
- Ribs: 6x6 (2)
- Knees: 6x6 (2)
- Dorsal Feet: 4x4 (2)
- Toes: 4x4 (2)

Prone Position Dressing Count

Dressing Size	Quantity
3" X 3"	2
4" X 4"	12
6" X 6"	8
Sacral	1

Guidelines for Head Dressing Use

- Forehead /Bridge of Nose: 4x4 (1) quarter turn
- Cheeks: 3x3 (2)
- Chin: 4x4 (1)
- Ears: 4x4 (2)





SKIN PROTECTION DRESSING OPTIONS



Aquacel Foam Pro

Description	Product Code	Dressing Size
Square	422359	3" X 3" (8cm X 8cm)
Square	422357	4" X 4" (10cm X 10cm)
Square	422358	6" X 6" (15cm X 15cm)

Areas of use: Ears, cheekbones, forehead, chin, occiput, chest, elbows, knees, dorsal feet and toes

Aquacel Foam Pro Heel

Heel	422356	8" X 5.5" (19.8cm X 14 cm)
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Areas of use: Heels

Aquacel Foam Pro Sacral

Sacral	421579	8" X 7" (20cm X 16.9cm)
Sacral	421580	9.4" X 8.4" (24cm X 21.5cm)

Areas of use: Sacrum and genital area



Aquacel Foam

Description	Product Code	Dressing Size
Square	420804	3" X 3" (8cm X 8cm)
Square	420680	4" X 4" (10cm X 10cm)
Square	422350	6" X 6" (15cm X 15cm)

Areas of use: Ears, cheekbones, forehead, chin, occiput, chest, elbows, knees, dorsal feet and toes

Aquacel Foam Heel

Heel	420625	8" X 5.5" (19.8cm X 14 cm)
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Areas of use: Heels

Aquacel Foam Sacral

Standard Sacral	420626	8" X 7" (20cm X 16.9cm)
Large Sacral	420828	9.4" X 8.4" (24cm X 21.5cm)

Areas of use: Sacrum and genital area

To find out more about AQUACEL[®] Foam dressings or to arrange a visit from your local ConvaTec representative: **Call 1-800-422-8811 or visit convatec.com**



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Advanced Wound Care

References

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