

# Basic Lessons for Understanding Equipment

## Low Air Loss Mattress

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Patient: M|SITE.SHIP\_TO\_NAME

Patient ID: M|CUSTOMER.PATIENT\_ID

Model #: Select

Serial #:

Date: M|C|CURRENTDATE

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### Setting Up Your Equipment

- Remove mattress from bed frame.
- Place low air loss mattress on bed frame and attach using the straps. Make sure that the air tubing exits the mattress at the foot of the bed.
- Hang the blower unit from the footboard. If there is no footboard on the bed, place the unit on a flat surface near the foot of the bed. Make sure that located so as not to be a tripping hazard.
- Connect the tubing from the mattress to the blower unit.
- Make sure that the hose is connected securely, that there are no kinks in the hose and that the hose is not tucked under the mattress.
- Install mattress cover.
- Plug the blower into to a 120V grounded outlet.
- Press the power button. Allow a few minutes for full inflation. Make sure that the mattress is inflated to Maximum if the patient is to be transferred after inflation.
- Adjust firmness for patient comfort. Check to make sure that the patient is not bottoming out on the mattress. There should be a minimum of 1" clearance below the patient's pelvic region.
- Keep unit on at all times when patient is on the mattress.

### Using Your Equipment

- Inflate mattress to maximum pressure. Reduce pressure gradually for patient comfort, making sure that the patient does not bottom out. There should be a minimum of 1" clearance below the patient's pelvic region.
- Inflate mattress to "Maximum" before transferring the patient.
- Check manufacturer's instructions for rapid deflation to administer CPR.

### Maintenance

- **Warning:** Disconnect the power cord from the outlet before attempting to clean the blower unit.
- Wipe dust off of the blower unit. If necessary, use a disinfectant solution or a mild detergent with a damp cloth, then wipe dry.
- The mattress itself may be wiped down with a disinfectant solution or a mild detergent and a damp cloth. Wipe dry before making the bed.
- Mattress cover can generally be laundered with the "gentle" cycle of the washing machine weekly or as required for patient hygiene. Dry on the "fluff" cycle.
- Verify that the mattress cover is completely dry before placing it under the patient.
- Clean blower filter with soap and water at least once a month.

### Safety Issues

- Do not spill food or liquids into the blower unit. If a spillage does occur, turn off the unit, disconnect power cord and allow at least 24 hours for drying.
- Do not insert items into any openings of the blower unit.
- Do not block the blower intake. Keep it away from heat sources.
- Do not place items on the electric cord and make sure that it is not located where it could be a tripping hazard.
- Do not leave the patient unsupervised with the bedrails in the down position
- Make sure that bed rail gaps and potential entrapment hazards of the patients head or body are adequately reduced.
- Keep away from smoking materials or open flame
- If linens are used, do not pull linens too tight over mattress. This can cause "hammocking" and reduce the effectiveness of the therapy.

**\*\* Please contact your equipment provider for any questions, adjustments, or repairs. \*\***