

TRIP Sheet

Translating Research Into Practice

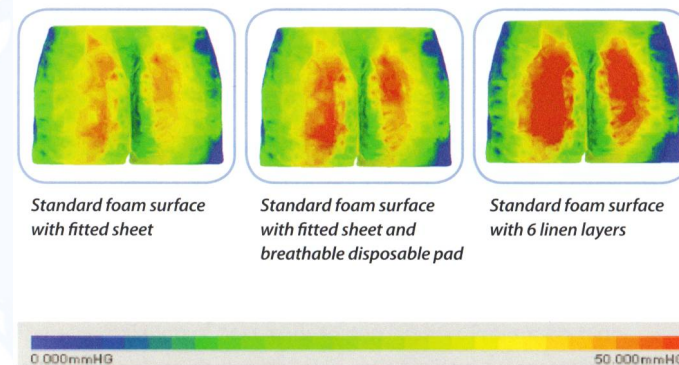
UCH EBP Skin Care Council

What does the evidence say?

- The type and number of linens should be *minimal* on hospital beds.
- Linen increases entrapment of moisture
- May increase risk of skin compromise
- Limit linens on all beds, especially on pressure redistribution beds (newer hospital beds) and low air loss beds

Change in practice?

- Avoid use of excessive linen
- Avoid use of mattress pad under patient
- Use a draw sheet to lift and turn patients



Green = limited linen **allows** redistribution and/or air therapy to reach the skin.

Red = linen is **preventing** redistribution and/or air therapy from reaching the skin.

Selected References:

Bostrom, J et. al. (1996). Preventing skin breakdown. *Applied Nursing Research*, 9(4), 184-188

Williamson, R. (2009). Linen Usage: Impact on pressure and microclimate management. Hill-Rom, Inc.

