

Pressure Reducing Support Surfaces- Group 2

Group 2 support surfaces are generally designed to either replace a standard hospital or home mattress or as an overlay placed on top of a standard hospital or home mattress. Products in this category include powered air flotation beds, powered pressure reducing air mattresses, and non-powered advanced pressure reducing mattresses.

A Group 2 support surface is covered if the beneficiary meets at least one of the following three criteria (1, 2, or 3):

1. The beneficiary has multiple stage II pressure ulcers located on the trunk or pelvis which have failed to improve over the past month, during which time the beneficiary has been on a comprehensive ulcer treatment program including each of the following:
 - a. Use of an appropriate Group 1 support surface, and
 - b. Regular assessment by a nurse, physician, or other licensed healthcare practitioner, and
 - c. Appropriate turning and positioning, and
 - d. Appropriate wound care, and
 - e. Appropriate management of moisture/incontinence, and
 - f. Nutritional assessment and intervention consistent with the overall plan of care
2. The beneficiary has large or multiple stage III or IV pressure ulcer(s) on the trunk or pelvis,
3. The beneficiary had a myocutaneous flap or skin graft for a pressure ulcer on the trunk or pelvis within the past 60 days and has been on a Group 2 or 3 support surface immediately prior to discharge from a hospital or nursing facility within the past 30 days.

If the beneficiary is on a group 2 support surface, there should be a care plan established by the treating physician or home care nurse which includes the above elements.

Coverage and Payment Policy

This service requires prior authorization. The continued use of a group 2 support surface is covered until the ulcer is healed and must be documented by the treating physician every 3 months.

Approved by:  Associate Medical Director
Jerry Fingerut, MD

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Reviewed: _____

Revised: _____