

The Rest-Q GS^{TM} Broad Spectrum Pressure Redistribution



Healthcare providers are caring for rising acuity levels and also an increasingly heavier patient population. In response to this increase in heavier patients, many facilities often request that new mattresses have a weight capacity of 500 lbs. Some manufacturers list a 500 lb capacity, but will the design in fact safely and comfortably support heavier patients?

If a design is supportive enough for those in the upper weight ranges, will it feel too firm or leave lighter patients at risk of an increase in pressure related problems?

Questions

- * Can a sleep surface provide clinically effective pressure redistribution for patients across a broad spectrum of body shapes and weights?
- * Can a mattress engineered to provide comfortable support for a heavier patient, also meet the comfort and therapeutic needs of the very light and very frail?
- * Can a non-mechanical sleep surface, capable of comfortably supporting bodyweights at each end of the spectrum, provide the therapeutic environment that complements care and supports wound healing?

Genesis of the GS (Gentle Strength)

The Comfortex Rest-Q® mattress (with a 350 lb recommended weight limit) has been used by Hospitals & Nursing Homes for more than a decade. Clinicians within a Wisconsin based health system were considering a conversion to the Rest-Q®, but given their patient population, they wanted a mattress with an effective 500 lb capacity.

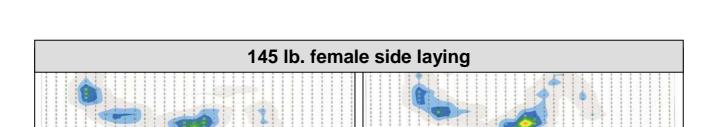
In an effort to serve this system, Comfortex modified its Rest-Q® in numerous ways until arriving on what has become the Rest-Q GS™. The GS incorporates additional layers of soft and firm HR (high resiliency) foams. At the foot-end of the bed, the Rest-Q's heel suspension system was modified with an open diamond – dual density system. The goal was to ensure the pressure redistribution and comfortable feel would be there for each body type, large and small.

In-house testing showed great potential, regardless of body mass or bed position. Samples were then presented to the health system for clinical review and comparisons. After the product comparisons and evaluations, the Rest-Q GSTM was selected.

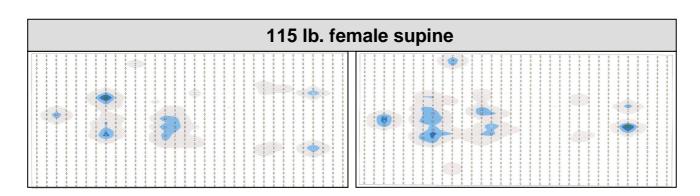
Interface Pressure Testing compares the Rest-Q GS[™] to a \$2700 Foam-Gel mattress, which the manufacturer has rated as having a 500 lb. capacity.

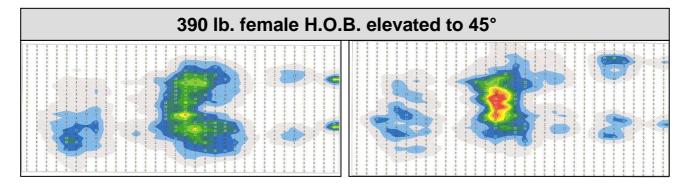
* Interface pressure images help illustrate a surfaces potential performance. Clinical use is required to demonstrate actual performance.

Rest-Q GS™ (\$700 or less)



Foam Gel (\$2700)





Interface Pressure Imaging was conducted at a major health system in Wisconsin.

Testing Therapeutic Capabilities (Evidenced Based)

Clinicians caring for patients with pressure wounds and other health issues were provided with a Rest-Q GS^{TM} to replace the current surface. This data reflects the outcomes and experiences reported by the patients and their caregivers.

Patient # 1 is female, age 87 years with a body weight of 84 lbs.

Patient # 2 is male, age 51 years with a body weight of 678 lbs.

Results

Patient # 1: Female, age 87, weight 84 lbs., Braden Score 19, moved to the Rest-Q GS from a foam, pressure redistribution mattress.

As of Start Date: Excoriated sacral wound has progressed to a denuded type wound. Wound bed is pale pink, granulated and bleeds easily. **4 cm x 4 cm x 3 mm** depth. Patient rests upon the wound constantly.

After 6 weeks: Wound is epitheializing. Depth has reduced to 1mm. Wound area has reduced to 1.5 cm x 1.5 cm.

Nursing comments: Patient spends nearly 22 hours a day in bed and she said, "I'll fight anyone who tries to take this away." Her comfort and her wound both improved significantly.

Patient # 2: Male, age 51 weight 678 lbs., Braden Score 15, Diabetes, Congestive Heart Failure.

As of Start Date: Stage 2 wound on his right heel, pooled blood beneath wound surface, edges have white pealing tissue. **7 cm x 8 cm x .2 cm** depth with moderate exudates, primarily sangenous, yellow. Patient is difficult to turn or reposition.

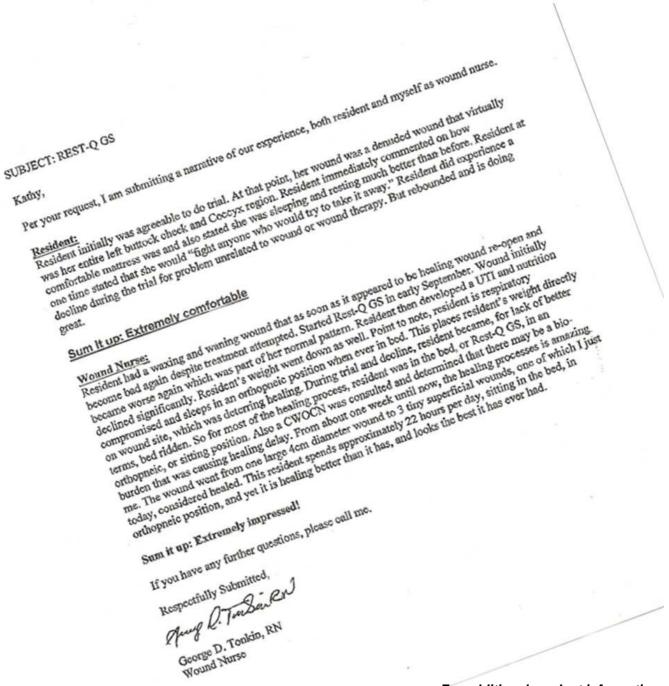
After 6 weeks: Patient's weight has increased from 678 lbs to 706 lbs., Braden Score 12, patient is no longer verbal. Wound base is beefy red, sangenous yellow drainage. Wound has decreased in size to **3.3 cm x 5.5 cm** (patient expired shortly after this report).

Nursing Comments: We were glad to see the surface enhanced his comfort level. Throughout the time on the Rest-Q GS mattress, (24/7), the patient repeatedly commented on his improved comfort. Given the significant challenges, we were very pleased to see the wound healing that we did.

Manufacturers note: Comfortex's goal with the development of the Rest-Q GS was to enhance the support factors of the Rest-Q mattress design, to ensure comfort and therapeutic capabilities would be realized for a broader spectrum of patients and better serve the healthcare providers.

While a manufacturer can work to innovate and engineer, it's the clinicians and patients who volunteer to do such research that elevate healthcare capabilities.

Our thanks to all.



For additional product information and clinical reports, please call Comfortex at 1-800-445-4007.