NEXT GENERATION OF SLIDE SHEET

Versal
Multi-use Slide Sheet
DESIGN REGISTERED & PATENT PENDING

...makes perfect sense
Designed by Diane Hindson, Backcare Advisor from County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, the new Banana Versal developed by GBUK Healthcare is a moving and handling slide sheet with a difference.

Versal replaces the need for multiple flat or tubular slide sheets. The unique design facilitates a full range of patient movement, with the versatility of both flat and tubular sheets. Versal is a single sized sheet, placed under the patient in the same position for every procedure.

**VERSAL SHEET**

**Why use a slide sheet at all?**

Moving a patient is a daily requirement in healthcare, whether it is to make a patient more comfortable or to facilitate some form of clinical intervention. Very often patients will have little or limited ability to assist in moving themselves. This means that most if not all the effort required to move the patient has to come from the carers. Carers working in hospital clinics and wards are called upon to move and reposition patients many times through the course of a working day.

In 2016 GBUK commissioned experts from Loughborough University to carry out an independent study and analysis of the forces employed in moving a patient.

**Correctly used slide sheets reduce risk**
Loughborough study

The Loughborough study evaluated the use of a single slide sheet, and measured the force required to move a static patient across from one surface to another, replicating the lateral transfer of the patient from a trolley to an operating table.

Loads representing three different patients were used: Heavy – 98kg, Medium – 72kg, and Small – 58kg.

Under identical conditions the force required to move the same patients but using Banana Versal slide sheets was measured.

The results were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient*</th>
<th>Single slide sheet</th>
<th>Banana Versal</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heavy 98kg</td>
<td>214.7N</td>
<td>104.7N</td>
<td>110N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium 72kg</td>
<td>172.6N</td>
<td>98.3N</td>
<td>74.3N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small 58kg</td>
<td>71.5N</td>
<td>65.2N</td>
<td>6.3N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In the UK the average adult male weight is around 85kg, and female around 70kg.

This clearly demonstrates that the heavier the patient the greater the force required to move the patient in the course of a lateral transfer.

What is also shown is that to move a patient using just a single slide sheet requires considerably more force than does moving the same patient using the Banana Versal. In the case of the 98kg patient more than twice as much effort is required. The reason for the significant difference between the force required when using a single sheet and that required when using the Banana Versal is entirely due to the reduction in friction. The low friction properties of the Banana Versal reduce the force of friction between the patient and trolley tops.

So why is Banana Versal any better than two flat sheets – or a tubular slide sheet?

Conventional slide sheets are either flat, in which case two are used together, or tubular. Tubular slide sheets are ideal for moving patients laterally, at 90 degrees to the axis of the tube. This is because in effect the tube creates two slide sheets that can stay with each other at the same time as moving against each other. The disadvantage is that any movement not at 90 degrees to the axis of the tube is not so readily facilitated.

Flat slide sheets are ideal for moving patients both laterally and medially. Two flat slide sheets will move well against each other, but unlike the tube, will not stay together. As the patient is moved the upper slide sheet will move away from it’s counterpart. This means that three flat sheets are often needed to complete lateral movements.

Another consideration is the size of slide sheet used. In essence the slide sheet should be long enough to stay fully under the patient, and wide enough to encompass the full range of the intended movement. But of course patients come in a range of shapes and sizes, and so there’s been a need for a range of different slide sheet sizes to cope with this.

The ideal slide sheet therefore comprises two surfaces that move against each other in any direction at the same time as remaining joined together under the patient.

Banana Versal is the next generation slide sheet
Manual Handling Operations Regulations

You need to comply with the risk assessment requirements set out in the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 as well as the requirement in the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended) (MHOR) to carry out a risk assessment on manual handling tasks.

The regulations set out a hierarchy of measures to reduce the risks of manual handling. These are in regulation 4(1) and as follows:

- Avoid hazardous manual handling operations so far as reasonably practicable;
- Assess any hazardous manual handling operations that cannot be avoided;
- Reduce the risk of injury so far as reasonably practicable.

Employees have general health and safety duties to:

- Follow appropriate systems of work laid down for their safety
- Make proper use of equipment provided for their safety
- Co-operate with their employer on health and safety matters
- Inform the employer if they identify hazardous handling activities
- Take care to ensure that their activities do not put others at risk

Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended)
Third edition 2004, Health and Safety Executive

Using conventional slide sheets, or no slide sheets at all

Moving patients and repositioning patients are routine daily tasks in every clinical situation.

There are a number of factors that can create an increased risk of localised trauma and tissue damage, which can lead to further complications, including pressure ulcers. The consequences of this for the patient include extended hospital stays, an increased risk of infection, and the need for further treatment. For the carer, not using slide sheets correctly or even at all increases the risk of MSK injury, with all the long-term consequences that this may bring.

Localised trauma & tissue damage:

Using a slide sheet that is too small or too narrow
- Increased risk of heels, shoulders and limbs being dragged across bed linen. This increases the likelihood of localised trauma and tissue damage.

Using too few slide sheets
- Transferring a patient safely should be done with three flat sheets. Using too few slide sheets increases the force required and risks the patient being dragged across bed linen during some part of the movement.

Not using a slide sheet at all
- Increased risk of tissue damage with the consequence of pressure sores and infection.

Compliance, purchasing and stock control:

Multiple sizes
- Keeping a stock of slide sheets in many different sizes raises the risk of the wrong size being selected for a given task.

Compliance and training
- Having several different types and style of slide sheet complicates user training and increases the risk of non-compliance or even non-use.

Injuries to staff

Using slide sheets incorrectly or not all
- Increases risks of MSK and other work-related injuries
- Can have lifelong consequences
How can Banana Versal help to reduce MSK injury risks and costs?

The cost of a slide sheet of any description is relatively small. Slide sheets are widely available as single-use disposable products and as single patient use reusable devices. To anticipate every eventuality it’s normal for clinical departments to stock both flat and tubular sheets in a range of different sizes. The disadvantage of this is that there is necessarily an extensive stock holding, but that the most appropriate slide sheet for any given task might not be selected by busy staff, or even available just when it’s needed.

Because Banana Versal is a single universal size and design these unnecessary logistics and inventory costs and risks are completely eliminated. Banana Versal means that a single universal type of slide sheet can be used for every patient in every department throughout the hospital. In addition, staff training is simplified and the potential for compliance significantly enhanced. The data from the Loughborough study clearly demonstrates that the failure to use a slide sheet correctly, or even at all substantially increases the physical effort required to move the patient. This greatly increases the risk of MSK injury to staff. It’s estimated* that the direct cost to the NHS of a Band 5 member of staff being absent from work for 12 weeks is almost £11,000.

*Data on file. 2016. GBUK Ltd

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Slide Sheets & Pressure Ulcers

"Pressure ulcers are recognised as having the potential to cause significant harm to the individuals who suffer them, and their prevention and management also consumes large slices of health care budgets. Furthermore, failure by health care professionals and organisations to prevent or manage pressure ulcers appropriately is increasingly the subject of litigation."**

Pressure ulcers occur as a result of localised ischaemia caused by tissue distortion, angulation or stretching out of the natural shape.

There are in essence three mechanisms that can lead to the formation of pressure ulcers.

- Localised direct pressure that becomes non-uniform gives rise to pressure gradients between adjacent areas of tissue, resulting in tissue distortion.
- Shearing occurs when soft tissue is subject to forces moving in different directions. The shearing forces acting between the bony skeleton and soft tissue can be sufficient to cause localised ischaemia and consequent tissue damage.
- Friction can result in acute mechanical trauma as for example patients are pulled across the coarse fabric of bedding.

The correct and appropriate use of slide sheets addresses these issues directly.

- Small adjustments can be easily made at regular intervals to an immobile patient’s position to prevent localised points of pressure, and reduce the risk of shearing.
- Slide sheets reduce friction when patients are being moved, reducing friction in turn reduces the risk of trauma and tissue damage.

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It’s estimated that a treating a single pressure ulcer costs the NHS up to £8,000**.

USEFUL INFORMATION
1. When inserting the Versal ensure the seam at the head end is in line with the top of the mattress. This will then enable the Versal to cover the full bed length.
2. Within the tube of the Versal, there are loops at the head end and the foot end. To hang up, please bring the loops together which will bring Versal to half size and then hang in your desired location.
3. When removing the Versal, please remove from the foot end. Holding both layers from the far corner pull the sheet at an angle up the legs and and body, turning the Versal under on itself. (The Versal is now moving against 4 layers. and will make it easy to remove)
4. If the hanging loops appear on the outside of the sheet, this means the sheet is inside out. Please turn the sheet the correct way before attempting to transfer or position.

The Banana Versal is a one size slide sheet. It is placed under the patient in the same way every time, no matter what the intended task Versal can be used for every lateral transfer, turning and repositioning up the bed.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
Slide sheets are inherently safe and effective when used correctly. The following safety warnings must be observed at all times.

CAUTION
If Versal is left in situ under a patient on a profiling bed, ensure that the knee bolster is raised before adjusting the bed back-rest.

DO inspect the Versal sheet before use
DO NOT use a Versal sheet that is worn or damaged, wet or soiled.
DO NOT use a Versal sheet to lift a patient.
DO ensure that Versal sheets is stored in clean and dry conditions and free from sources of contamination.
DO NOT leave Versal on the floor.

FOR USE WITH ONE PATIENT ONLY
Single patient use Versal sheets may not be laundered and once used must be disposed of in accordance with local policy.
Lifting the bolster to raise the patient’s knees...

Patient sat on bed prior to being helped into chair.

...raising patient’s head. This sequence ensures that patient does not slide down the bed.

Lateral transfer using Banana Versal and Transfer Board

Turning patient with Banana Versal. Continue move to prone patient if required.

Patient transferred to trolley

Moving patient’s legs over side of bed

Removing Banana Versal
The new slide sheet is great from a tissue viability point of view as the heels are covered for all patient movement. The majority of the time the staff are concerned about the trunk and tend to forget about the heels. With this design of slide sheet the risk is eliminated.

Having trialled this slide sheet in situ under a patient with the Intelligent Pressure Distribution Mapping (MAP) system there were no significant pressure changes seen. I am happy for this slide sheet to be left in situ under patients following individual risk assessment.

Carol Johnson
Tissue Viability Matron
University Hospital of North Durham & Darlington Memorial Hospital

BANANA VERSAL BED ADAPTOR
A tough, durable adaptor frame that can be easily fitted to profiling beds to provide attachment points for the Banana Versal Sheet Clamp.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Code</th>
<th>Size W x L</th>
<th>Unit of Sale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MDBA001-G</td>
<td>88cm x 35cm x 21cm</td>
<td>Single Units</td>
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BANANA VERSAL SHEET CLAMP
A versatile Sheet Clamp used in conjunction with the Banana Versal Bed Adaptor to prevent unwanted movement of in situ repositioning sheet systems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MDSC002-02-G</td>
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Banana Versal Evaluation Results
Respondents who rated Banana Versal as good or excellent:

- Using one Versal for all procedures: 94%
- Using just one Versal for turning: 100%
- Using one Versal for repositioning: 94%
- Using one Versal for transferring: 86%
- Using one Versal for proning: 86%
- Considering the feel of the Versal sheet: 97%
- To remain under ventilated patients: 87%
- Respondents who would be happy to use Banana Versal: 94%

Banana Versal
Helps reduce the risk of injury
Helps avoid hazardous manual handling operations
Helps make proper use of equipment provided for safety
Helps ensure that activities do not put others at risk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Code</th>
<th>NHS Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>B-ReDi100200-FT</td>
<td>FER13130</td>
<td>Box of 50</td>
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