

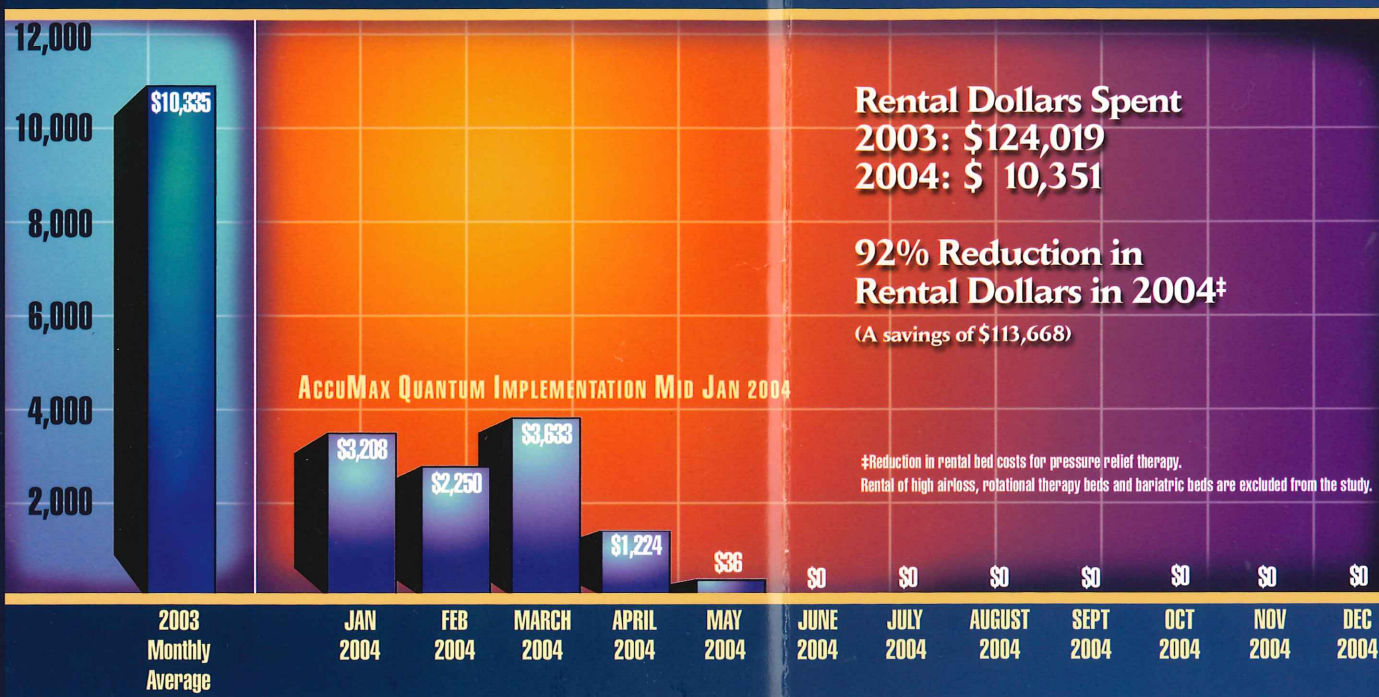
Effects of a Non-Powered Dynamic Surface on Reducing Facility-Acquired Pressure Ulcers*

Becky Strilko, RN CWOCN, Judith Morey RN CWOCN, Alison Barna RN MSN CWOCN, Provena St. Joseph Medical Center, Joliet, Il.

PURPOSE:

The standard foam mattresses in our facility needed to be replaced on all medical-surgical units due to wear and tear. Along with rising costs in specialty bed rentals and concern over nosocomial pressure ulcers, our hospital opted to purchase pressure relief mattresses to replace the old foam mattresses. After clinical evaluation of several dynamic pressure relief mattresses, both powered and non-powered, we chose a mattress designed with a newer technology of atmospheric air. Excluding the ICU's, our facility was 90% converted to non-powered and will be 100% converted in 2005.

Monthly Rental Costs: 2003 Monthly Average vs. 2004



CONCLUSION:

With the replacement of the standard foam mattress to the non-powered dynamic surface, we were able to decrease our facility-acquired pressure ulcers by 61.5% in an eight-month time period. Quarterly pressure ulcer prevalence studies will continue to be performed to evaluate the effectiveness of the mattress.

SETTING/SUBJECTS:

350-bed hospital with an average of 253 patients assessed at time of pressure ulcer prevalence studies.

METHODOLOGY:

The new pressure relief mattresses were placed on the medical-surgical beds in January 2004. A comparative percentage of patients with facility-acquired pressure ulcers (12.4%) were obtained from pressure ulcer prevalence study data last performed in March 2003. A repeat prevalence study was performed three-month post-new mattress application in April 2004 with

255 patients' assessed. The data revealed a 9% rate of patient's with facility-acquired pressure ulcers. This study was again repeated in August 2004 with 251 patients assessed revealing a rate of 4.78%.

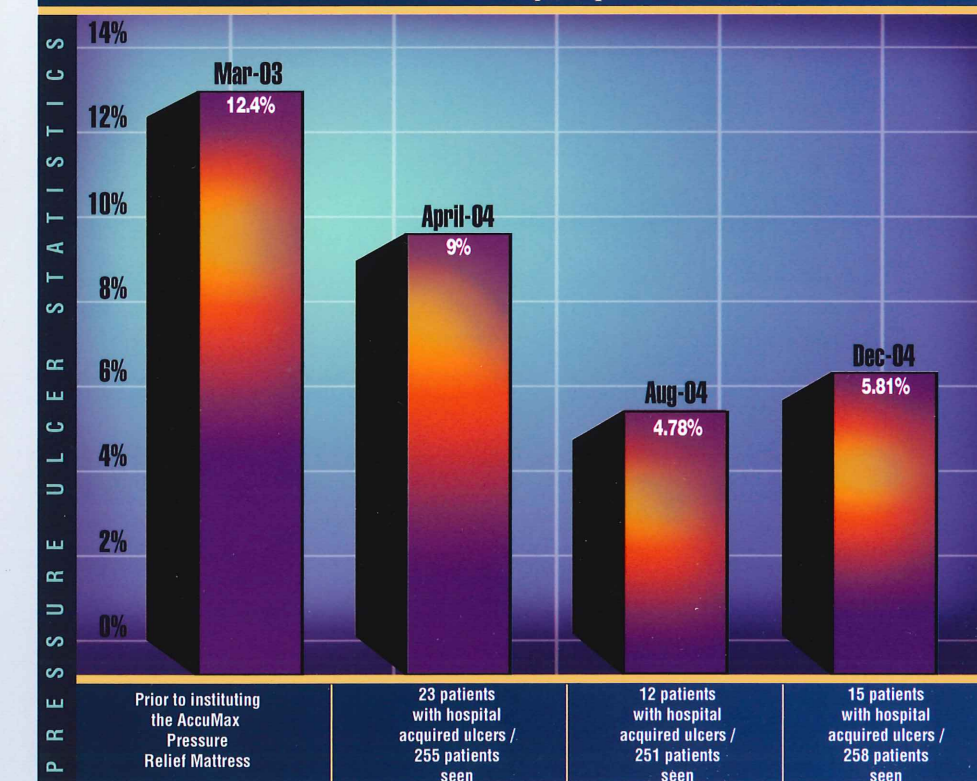
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encompass
therapeutic support systems

800-822-8288
Phone: 818-546-2466
Fax: 818-546-8909

500 N. Central Avenue
Suite 900
Glendale, CA 91203

Pressure Ulcer Trending Patients with Facility Acquired Wounds



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE/DISCLOSURE:

No financial assistance was received for the study. Poster development, registration and travel to be provided by Encompass Therapeutic Support Systems

