

Clinical experience series

Independent quality improvement
initiative

Implementation and initial evaluation of the Maxxcare Heel Pro Evolution at Counties Manukau District Health Board

About this publication

This publication presents a quality improvement poster developed by external healthcare professionals at Counties Manukau District Health Board in New Zealand.

The poster describes the local reasons for reviewing the organisation's existing heel protection solution, the evaluation of the Maxxcare Heel Pro Evolution across Orthopaedics, General Medicine and Rehabilitation, and the subsequent implementation of the product within the organisation.

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Publication details

Publication

Example – Counties Manukau District Health Board's Protective Heel Boots

Year

2019

Project setting

Orthopaedics, General Medicine and Rehabilitation within Counties Manukau District Health Board, New Zealand

Project type

Local product evaluation and quality improvement initiative

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Source

Counties Manukau District Health Board. Example – *Counties Manukau District Health Board's Protective Heel Boots*. Quality improvement poster, New Zealand, 2019.

Example – Counties Manukau District Health Board's Protective Heel Boots

Context and understanding the issue

- Heel pressure injuries were a specific area of concern in CM Health
- The standard eggshell heel boots made it difficult for patients to move around in bed and were unable to be worn when mobilising
- The eggshell boots were also difficult to clean in the hospital setting.

What change was made?

The Pressure Injuries Prevention (PIP) Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) found the **MaxXcare Heel Boot Pro** designed for patients to walk small distances, protection against friction forces in bed, comfortable, safe and easy to clean.

A trial was conducted in the DHB, across 3 specialisations: Orthopaedics, General Medication and Rehabilitation.

- 21 patients were evaluated as at risk and met the criteria for use, including 3 patients with existing pressure
- All the patient reviews had positive experiences and none of this cohort went on to get a heel pressure injury
- The three patients with known heel pressure injuries all improved with the use of the MaxXcare Heel Boot Pro.

The PIP CNS went through the Product Safety Committee (PSIG) and the boots were implemented over a very long period of review.



How was the change made?



Education posters and resources were developed, and education sessions were provided to nurses and other relevant staff about the new MaxXcare Heel Boot.



The MaxXcare Heel Boot Pro is available across the entire hospital. A stock is available in each ward and boots are ordered in bulk.



Boots were also implemented by the outpatient spinal unit to help reduce risk of heel pressure injuries.



Pressure Injuries Clinical Nurse Specialist has negotiated for small size boots. Boots are available nationally.

What value has the change added to practice?

Fitting Tips...



- The two PIP CNS roles will be doing a six-monthly review of heel pressure injuries at 6 and 12 months to show the effectiveness of the product. Preliminary results look promising
- Through the national ACC meetings other DHBs including Capital & Coast DHB and Taranaki DHB have implemented the MaxXcare Heel Boot Pro.