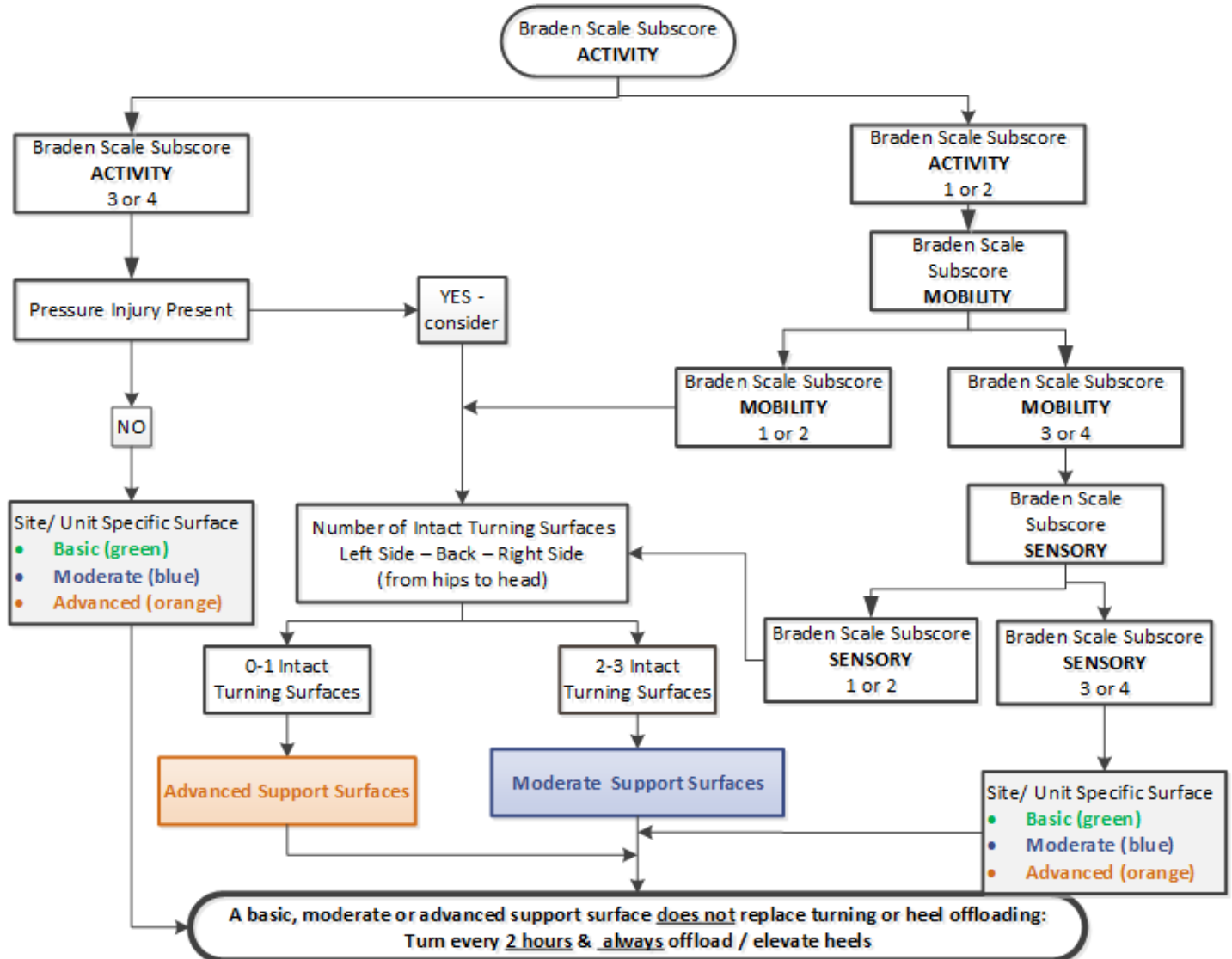




BC Provincial Support Surface Selection Algorithm

Intended for pressure injury prevention/treatment only; not intended for post-surgical management
Complete a Full Braden Risk Assessment and Comprehensive Head to Toe Skin Assessment



Moisture Subscale less than 2: consider a Skin IQ over top of a standard mattress or non-powered support surface (SS). If patient requires a higher level SS, consider a powered surface that has microclimate management/ low air loss. Not for incontinence management.

Assess the Client for Other Factors to Consider

Assess:

1. Weight?
2. Their 'fit' on standard bedframe and mattress?
3. Risk for falls?
4. Ambulatory/ transferring out of bed?
5. Edema present?
6. Lower leg injury or surgery?
7. Only the heels at risk?
8. Wound deteriorating on current surface despite optimizing care plan?

Consider

- Choose either the Bariatric or Non-Bariatric Support Surface
- Consider bed extender or bed with lengthening functions
- Stability at edge, side rails at adequate height above mattress
- Stability at edge
- Pulsation Therapy
- Does not require specialty mattress. Elevate/ offload heels at all times
- Does not require specialty mattress. Elevate/ offload heels at all times
- Change to more advanced surface

if you require more information about the mattress available in your area, please contact the OT/ PT/ NSWOC /Wound Clinician

Terminology

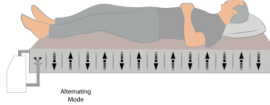
Active: A powered support surface, with the capability to change its load-distribution properties, with or without applied load (not dependent on client's weight or movement). Commonly used for clients who:

- Have limited mobility or are completely immobile
- Have a high risk of pressure injury
- Cannot be positioned without pressure on a pressure injury
- Have pressure injury that is not healing on a reactive support surface

Advanced Support Surface: a surface with advanced features for pressure injury prevention and treatment

Air Mattress*: a surface with more effective immersion/ envelopment over foam

Alternating therapy: A form of active therapy where air cells are programmed with a subtle inflate-deflate (load-unload) on a cycle enabling blood flow to the area. To be used when:

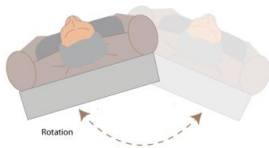


- Greater pressure redistribution than static air is needed
- The client has pressure injuries on multiple areas
- There is failure to heal on static support (e.g., Post-op pressure injury repair)

Basic Support Surface: a surface with limited features for pressure injury prevention

Bottoming out - Occurs when a reactive or an active support surface provides insufficient pressure redistribution due to client's excessive immersion into the surface; the client's body area is in contact with the underlying structure of the bed or chair not the support surface

CLRT: Continuous Lateral Rotation



- Provides 45° lung-over-lung offloading to support improved respiratory function and drainage
- Rotates side to side for gentle offloading but does not replace physical turn
- Depending on the degree of rotation, the sacrococcygeal area may not fully offloaded, therefore frequent observation of the area is needed. Offloading of sacrococcygeal area usually requires greater than 45°
- Used for pressure injury treatment after flap surgery or when there is deterioration of multiple trunk pressure injuries

Entrapment: term used to describe when a person becomes caught, trapped or entangle in the bed (side rails, mattress and/or bedframe) or bed linen

Incontinence pad: a multilayered, absorbent, short cover used to protect the bed linen from incontinence episodes; may or may not be air-permeable Pads are not to be used as repositioning devices; they do not replace repositioning sheets/ slings

Intact Turning Surface: for the purposes of this document, there are 3 body turning surfaces; left side-lying, supine and right side- lying. Prone is not included as it is usually difficult to maintain. "Intact" means the turning surface does not have a wound.

Low Air Loss: for the purposes of this document "microclimate" is used instead of 'low air loss'; see microclimate definition

LOS: length of stay

Microclimate: the temperature/heat and moisture/humidity environment at the interface of where the skin is in contact the support surface

Microclimate Management: a feature of a support surface or specially designed mattress coverlet which manages the microclimate

Moderate Support Surface: a surface with some extra features for pressure injury prevention and treatment

Multi-Zoned: a surface in which different segments can have different pressure redistribution capabilities

NSWOC: Nurse Specialized in Wound, Ostomy, Continence

Overlay: support surface designed to be laid over top of an existing surface

OT: Occupational Therapist

Owned: a surface or bed which has been purchased for use

PI: Pressure Injury. A wound which occurs over bony prominences or under medical devices

PIP: Pressure Injury Prevention

Pressure Redistribution: ability of a surface to distribute load (the client's weight on the surface). This term replaces the terms of 'pressure reduction' and 'pressure relief surface.'

PT: Physiotherapist

Pulsation: an advanced form of alternating therapy with a subtle and short duration inflate-deflate (load-unload); effective for edema management

Reactive: A powered or non-powered support surface with the capability to change its load distribution properties only in response to applied load (is dependent upon client's weight or movement). Commonly used for clients who:

- Can be positioned without weight bearing on the pressure injury site
- Need pressure injury prevention

Rental: a surface or bed which is available for rent; there is a daily rental cost

Single Zoned: a segment with a single pressure redistribution capability

Skin IQ: A powered microclimate cover overlay; NOT for incontinence management

Stable at edge: refers to the ability of mattress edge to support the client's weight and movement when sitting on the edge of the mattress or when going from a sitting to standing position

Therapeutic/ Specialized Support Surface: support surfaces specially designed to redistribute pressure and may have other therapeutic functions such as microclimate management or rotation. For the purposes of this document, these support surfaces are classified as either Moderate or Advanced.

Turn Assist: assist with turning for the purpose of providing care; not for offloading/ turning