

STUDY SUMMARY

Care Facilities Realize Cost Savings Due to the Tempur-Med® Bed

Studies indicate that the Tempur-Med Bed will reduce costs as well as pressure-related medical problems

Hospitals and other medical care facilities often rent special equipment for patients with special skin- or wound-care concerns. The costs of these rental support surfaces can skyrocket, reducing budgets for other important facilities and staff in a care facility. Tempur-Med mattresses help reduce rental costs and pay for themselves as a result of the savings.

Easing Pain in Patients and Pocketbooks

A medical center in Florida (a 2005 Solucient Top 100 Hospital) had rental costs for pressure management drop from \$233,000 in 2001 to \$57,000 in 2002 after adding 317 Tempur-Med mattresses. That is a 71.5 percent savings. In 2003 and 2004, the rental costs remained below \$40,000/year. With the financial savings realized, the cost of the mattress replacement was recovered within the first 12-18 months, and the rental costs remain stable at less than \$3,300/month.

Reduce Costs, Increase Care

A preliminary pilot test¹ in a rehabilitation hospital in Colorado Springs indicated successful conversion of conventional foam beds to Tempur-Med mattresses for patient use. This primary study suggests that the conversion will lower costs associated with pressure management device utilization. In the test, healing rates were satisfactory, incidence rates were reduced, and savings of \$107,000 or 55% of predicted cost were projected even if ongoing rental support surfaces were still required. Although only a preliminary test, the findings also found that both the patients and nursing staff were generally accepting of the conversion and specifically expressed preference over the old mattresses.

In her report², Marino cites numerous cost-saving benefits of the Tempur-Med Medical Bed, including:

- Reducing the need for one-off rental of expensive dynamic systems
- Additional investment in Tempur-Med is “normally more than covered by the savings”
- Enhanced level of care and comfort
- Guaranteed life of mattress

¹Tempur-Pedic, Inc. (2002). A Preliminary Report of Using the Tempur-Med Mattress at HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Colorado Springs. Retrieved September 1, 2006, from <http://www.spineuniverse.com/displayarticle.php/article2045.html>

²Marino, J. (2001). Tempur-Med®: Choosing the correct pressure area care system. *British Journal of Nursing*, 10(20), 1364-1367.