

# New form of therapy for decubitus patients

## 'Micro-stimulation' revolutionizes nursing care

The medical term 'decubitus', more commonly known as bedsores, is a well-known phenomenon for relatives of those who need care. 'Open wounds' or reddened patches on the skin pose a real problem for those who are bedridden. Bedsores are caused by permanent pressure on the skin when a person is immobile. First of all, isolated tissue becomes red and, with further pressure from sitting or lying for long periods, pressure sores can then develop. The patient's lack of movement quickly exacerbates the painful sores. This condition is a very serious problem, as over 5.3 million patients suffer from bedsores in Europe each year.

Conventional treatment involves moving patients manually on a regular basis. This method is, however, time-consuming and tiring and requires extensive staff deployment. Increasingly, hospitals and homes are using bedding facilities that actively support traditional methods of care. Hitherto, standard mattresses and facilities, such as alternating-pressure or other soft bedding, have often

produced negative side effects: impaired coordination and decreased mental awareness. As a result, the patient's ability to move, which is so important, becomes increasingly limited.

However, a research team comprising scientists, sleep researchers, engineers and nurses has examined the requirement for an improved bedding system to support preventive treatment and therapy for bedsores. They have developed a new form of therapy called micro-stimulation.

This newly developed form of bed sore therapy to reduce pressure and pain enhances the patient's mobility through a gentle, stimulating micro-movement and, therefore, guarantees a bedding system that is kind to tissue. In accordance with the recommended approach, newly developed micro-stimulation systems provide many advantages compared with conventional systems. Such products feature in the Thevo range produced by the German



*The MiS Micro-Stimulation® System Thevo Adapt is used successfully in nursing and home care.*

manufacturer THOMASHILFEN, a specialized provider in the sector for bed sore treatment. These products are based on the fundamental principles of basal stimulation and, in addition to the possibilities of a more rapid healing process, offer a host of benefits for nursing staff, including ease of handling and durability.

*Micro-stimulation systems have been used successfully in Germany for some time. For further information, please visit [www.dekubitus.de](http://www.dekubitus.de).*



*The quality of life is one of the most important goods, especially to people who are confined to their bed.*