

Cushion provision for patients with Spinal Cord Injury (page 1 of 2)

During rehabilitation

Initially you will be loaned a wheelchair from the Therapy Department and a pressure relieving cushion from the Pressure Clinic.

This equipment is for assessment purposes only, not for long-term use.

Throughout your rehabilitation the Pressure Clinic and therapy staff will continue to assess your seating and postural needs. This may involve trying different cushions, wheelchairs and other equipment.

You will be given regular Pressure Clinic appointments where your cushion will be checked to make sure that meets your holistic needs. Your weight will also be checked and recorded.

Ordering your wheelchair and cushion

Your therapist will arrange an interim wheelchair for you from your local Wheelchair Service. To allow time for delivery your order is placed six weeks prior to your provisional discharge date.

Once the chair sizes have been confirmed, the Pressure Clinic staff will ask the Wheelchair Service to provide a cushion. In most instances this will be of the type you have tried and found successful during rehabilitation.

The cushion you are given may be a new (from the manufacturer) or refurbished (the Pressure Clinic staff will check it is safe for you to use).

The Pressure Clinic ask for all cushions to be sent direct to the Spinal Centre. This ensures you are set up on your own cushion.

With your permission, the cushion may be delivered to a relative who can bring the equipment to the Spinal Centre allowing it can be checked before use.

What if my cushion is not delivered in time for my discharge?

In the unlikely circumstance that your Wheelchair Service cannot provide the cushion in time for your discharge, the Pressure Clinic may loan one temporarily.

You will have to sign an agreement form and make sure that the equipment is returned promptly once your own equipment arrives.

If a wheelchair is not being provided for discharge, for your own safety we cannot provide you with a cushion.

Pressure Clinic
 **01722 429291**



If you need your information in another language or medium (audio, large print, etc) please contact Customer Care on 0800 374 208 or send an email to: customercare@salisbury.nhs.uk

You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

Please complete The Friends & Family Test to tell us about your experience at: www.salisbury.nhs.uk/FriendsFamily or download our App from the Apple App store or Google Play Store.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk if you would like a reference list.

For more information please refer to the Protocol for the Pressure Clinic www.icid.salisbury.nhs.uk/clinicalmanagement/tissueviability/pages/pressureulcerpreventionpolicycp.aspx

As an outpatient

As an outpatient returning to the Spinal Centre for follow up appointments you will have the opportunity to discuss any issues regarding your wheelchair and cushion. The Outpatient Team will liaise as appropriate with your Wheelchair Service.

In the first instance any equipment queries should be directed to your local Wheelchair Service.

The address and telephone number of your Wheelchair Service is:
