

## Instructions For Use Bariatric Cushion (FC20) CE



**Product Name(s):** Bariatric Cushion FC20

**Intended Purpose and Design:** The Bariatric Cushion is a pressure redistributing high specification foam (HSF) cushion, recommended for the prevention and management of pressure ulcers for wheelchair users or people who sit for prolonged periods of time\*. The cushion has been designed to provide optimal pressure care support, whilst ensuring user comfort, mobility and product longevity for the heavier user.

The two-layer high specification foam cushion is comprised of two high-density combustion modified polyurethane foam layers of varying densities, which is covered in multi-stretch vapour-permeable fabric\*\*. The covers can be made with either sewn or high frequency welded seams\*\*\* and have a zip on two sides, which can also be concealed with waterfall flaps if required\*\*\*.

The top layer of high-density combustion modified polyurethane is less dense, providing excellent patient comfort and optimum pressure redistribution. The higher density bottom layer provides immersion control by supporting the body, improves longevity and prevents the cushion from bottoming out.

**Operator Qualifications:** Those responsible for the storage, transportation, usage, cleaning and disinfecting of the cushions should be fully trained and competent. Choice of cushion should be determined by a qualified health professional, following a comprehensive and holistic assessment using both formal and informal assessment methods.

## Instructions for Use (IFU):

**Prior To Use:** Upon receipt of the cushion(s) all packaging should be removed and visual checks should be carried out to ensure:

- The contents are complete
- The cushions have not been damaged in transit
- Check the maximum user weight is suitable for the intended user
- Ensure the cushion is suitable for the intended user in terms of pressure care risk
- The label should not be removed

**Storage and Servicing:** When the cushion(s) are not in use they should be stored in a protective covering and should be in a secure location away from the general public. For ease of storage cushions can be stacked on top of one another. However, to avoid damage to the cushions, never store other items on top of the cushions, always store the cushions flat, do not store the cushions directly on the floor and do not store the cushions next to radiators or other heating sources.

The cushions should be visually inspected daily and/or between users to check for material degradation, damage, misuse or tampering. Check for any signs of tearing and/or punctures, check all the seams for any signs of splitting, check the zip(s) for any signs of damage and check for any signs of permanent staining. Unzip the cushions and check the foam inners for any signs of fluid ingress/strikethrough. If following the visual inspection, there are any signs of contamination, the cushions should be withdrawn from use until the covers and/or the inner foams are replaced. If cushion covers or foam inners are replaced, then it is important that the correct corresponding cushion cover/foam inner is re-ordered as cushion covers must not be used on other foam inners. Contaminated covers/inner foams, should be disposed of safely and in line with local infection prevention and control policies.

## During Use:

- Ensure the chair is clear of debris
- The zips should be positioned to the sides and rear of the cushion
- Ensure that the cushion is positioned on the chair and is the correct way up
- Although the Bariatric Cushion has excellent pressure-redistributing qualities, it is important that the user repositions themselves or is repositioned frequently

**Aftercare:** The Bariatric Cushion is reusable, therefore, the following processes should be undertaken to allow re-use.

- **Visual Inspection:** Daily and/or between users the cushion should be inspected as per previous recommendations.
- **Cleaning:** Cushion covers should be cleaned regularly including between patients in accordance with The Revised Healthcare Cleaning Manual 2009, BHTA Protect, Rinse and Dry 2016, local infection prevention and control policies and the guidance below:
  1. Wipe the whole surface of the cushion cover(s) with soap and water, rinse with clean water and allow to dry completely before re-use. A non-abrasive cloth can be used for more stubborn soiling
  2. If a disinfectant wipe is applied, the cushion cover(s) must be allowed to dry completely
  3. If the cover is heavily soiled a 0.1% Chlorine Solution (1,000ppm) and cold water can be used. If the cover has been exposed to bodily fluids, such as blood, a 1% Chlorine Solution (10,000ppm) and cold water can be used. The

- top bottom and all four sides of the cushion, including under the zip flaps must be cleaned. Rinse thoroughly with clean water and a damp single use wipe
4. The cushion cover(s) are machine washable up to 95°C for 15 minutes and should then be followed by a cold rinse
  5. Line dry in an indoor, clean environment or tumble dry on a low heat setting not exceeding 40°C and not for longer than 10 minutes
  6. The cushion cover(s) must be thoroughly dried before re-use
  7. Always ensure the correct cushion cover(s) are returned to their corresponding foam inner. Covers must not be used on other foam inners

#### **General Warnings Precautions and Limitations:**

- Only qualified professionals should be involved in the cushion selection
- Only use the cushion for its intended purpose
- Ensure the cushion is suitable for the intended user in terms of pressure care risk
- Do not exceed user maximum weight
- Ensure that the user repositions themselves or is repositioned frequently
- Take care not to puncture the cover, to avoid fluid ingress/strikethrough
- Do not place sharp objects such as scissors, needles, syringes, scalpels or other sharps on the cushion surface
- Advise operators, users and visitors to remove or cover hand jewellery including rings with sharp edges
- Do not permit staff or visitors to sit on cushion
- Take extra care when using medical equipment such as monitors, drip stands and transfer aids
- Do not drag along the floor, do not transport in roll cages unless completely protected from sharp edges and do not scrape against walls, door frames, door catches or locks
- Frequent or prolonged exposure to higher concentration disinfectant solutions may prematurely age the fabric cover of the cushions
- The cushion covers must be thoroughly rinsed and dried between and after cleaning or disinfection. Cushion covers are more susceptible to physical damage when wet and will remain susceptible for a period of time after being dried
- Abrasive cleaners and sponges must not be used to avoid ingress of fluids/strikethrough
- Dimethyl formamide (DMF), tetrahydrofuran (THF), concentrated inorganic acids, concentrated alkalis, and phenol/cresol based chemicals should never be used
- Avoid using any additional covers or padding between the user and the cushion, as this may affect the pressure reducing qualities

## Technical Information:

<b>Cushion/ Quality</b>	<b>Bariatric Cushion (FC20)</b>
<b>Cover</b>	Blue multi-stretch vapour-permeable fabric
<b>Foam Inner</b>	Two-layer: High density combustion modified polyurethane
<b>Turn</b>	One way
<b>Dimensions</b>	51 x 46 x 10cm
<b>Flammability</b>	BS 7177:2008
<b>Maximum User Weight</b>	318kg

**Contact Details:** If you require any further information please contact us at:

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Please take time to read the contents of this information guide. Any actions that are inconsistent with this guide, are done so at the operators risk and Thorpe Mill Ltd will not be liable for injury or damage. In addition to the information in this guide, operators should use the product specified with due consideration of applicable international, national and local regulations, guidance and policies. Safe and correct use of this product is solely at the discretion of the operators.

If a serious incident does occur during use, this should be reported to Thorpe Mill Ltd using the above contact details.

\*Pressure redistributing high specification foam cushions are recommended for the prevention and management of pressure ulcers for wheelchair users or people who sit for prolonged periods of time (NICE, 2014). Choice of cushion should be determined by a qualified professional, following a comprehensive and holistic assessment using both formal and informal assessment methods.

\*\*If a wipe clean multi-stretch vapour-permeable cover is not required, the cover is available in terry towelling or 100% wool pile top which is fully machine washable.

\*\*\*High frequency welded seams and waterfall flaps to conceal the zip will incur an additional charge.