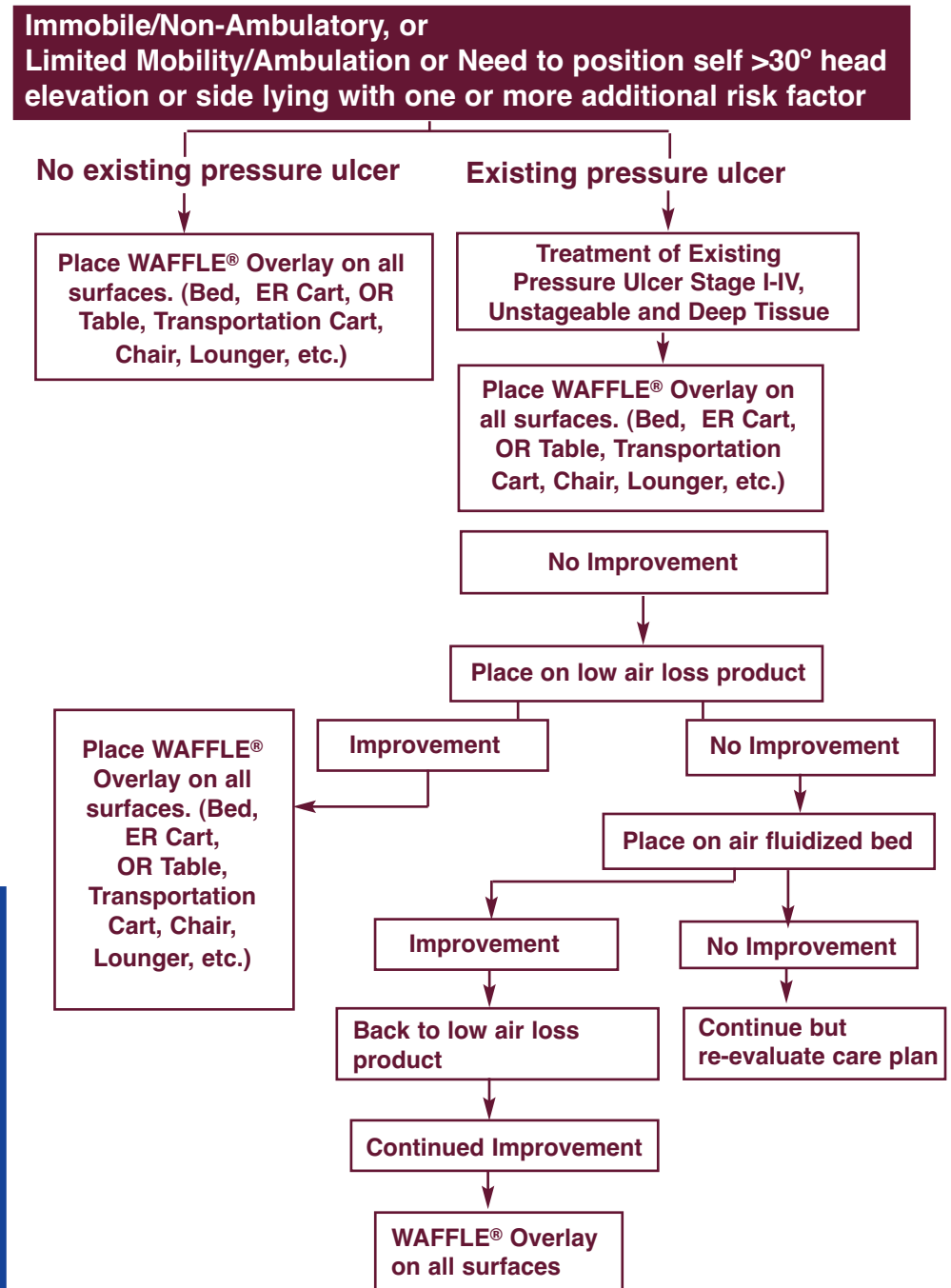
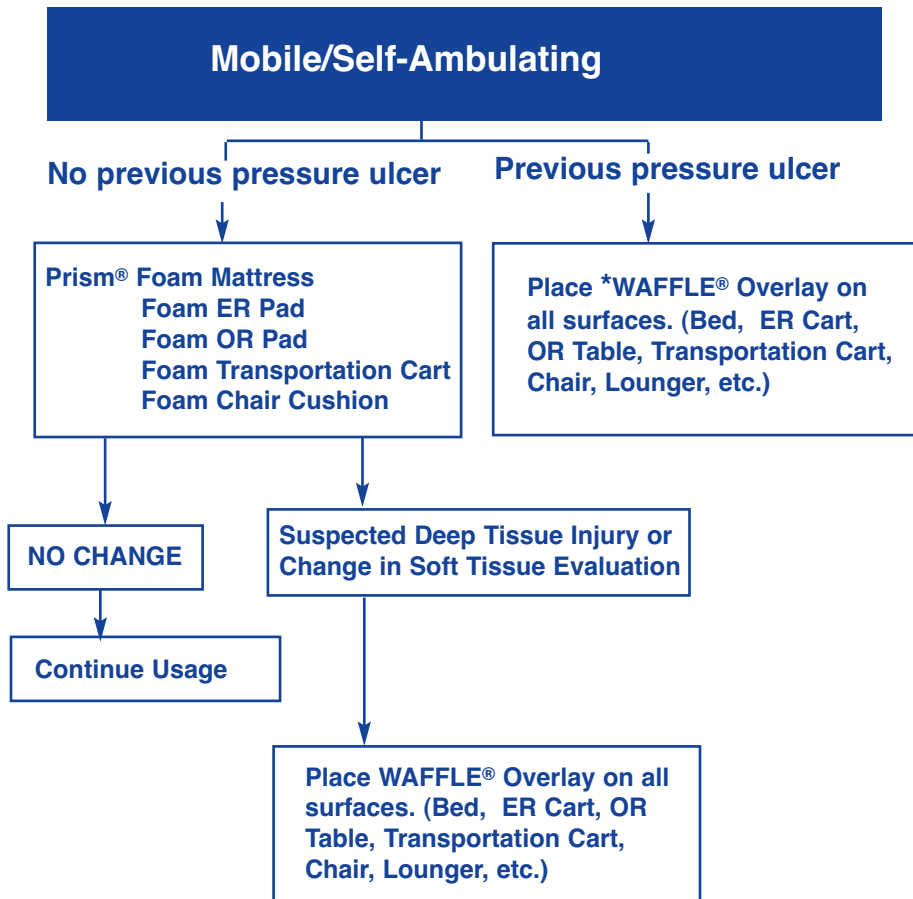


# WAFFLE® Brand Suggested Usage as Part of Protocol



## RISK CATEGORIES TO CONSIDER:

- Cognition
- Mobilization and Ambulation
- Nutrition and Hydration
- Moisture and Incontinence
- General Medical Co-morbidities (Including Medication Usage)
- Existing Pressure Ulcers (Including Deep Tissue Injury)
- Previous Pressure Ulcers (Closed Stage III, IV and Unstageable)
- Contact with Medical Devices (i.e. braces, orthotics, cannulas, tubing, and/or any object in contact with the body)
- Patient chooses not to accept part or all of the suggested medical treatment

\* WAFFLE® Overlay includes: WAFFLE® Overlay, WAFFLE® Seat Cushion and WAFFLE® Surgery Table Pad

## Items to Remember...

If the body is 3-dimensional, **THEN**

deliverance of gradient pressure and shear mechanical stresses (unequalized weight distribution) by the support surface (solids, gels and powered fluids), **WILL**

cause soft tissue distortion, change in velocity and flow pattern of the circulation, causing endothelial damage resulting in ischemic and possible infarction of the soft tissue at risk (pressure ulcer), **THUS**

selection of these types of media must be evaluated by scientific facts and soft tissue strain visualization (CT or MRI scanning) since pressure mapping is 2-dimensional and unreliable in defining causation of the soft tissue distortion.

### **THEREFORE**

If the body is 3-dimensional, **THEN**

volumetric support (flotation) is needed to maintain proper tissue orientation, **THEN**

a static fluid media (gas, liquid, sol) is needed to float the body (equalized weight distribution) in a flexible container that is properly filled or inflated, **AND**

static air is preferred to liquid or sol because it has less density and no viscosity.

## Items to Consider...

1. Pressure ulcers can develop in as little as two hours.
2. Deep tissue injury can take three to seven days to become clinically recognized.
3. The Braden and Norton Scales are cumulative ratings but each risk factor must be addressed separately in a care plan.
4. When to revise Care Plan
  - Improvement
  - No improvement
  - Change in clinical status
  - Change in medical setting or level of acuity of care
5. Support surface selection is only a part of a protocol.
6. Support surface means all surfaces on which a patient is placed.
7. WAFFLE® overlays can be used on beds, transportation carts, perioperative beds, emergency room cart.
8. WAFFLE® overlays can be used to assist in turning and transferring and positioning of a patient.
9. WAFFLE® products can be sent with the patient to the next medical setting or next level of care.
10. Based on the facilities protocol, use a visual prompt (i.e bracelet) to create timely awareness of the pressure ulcer risk status so an individualized care plan, based on the facilities protocol can be put into place immediately.
11. No support surface can address the ankle/heel pressure ulcer prevention/treatment at all times.  
**See Heel and Lower Extremity Support Device Selection Guidelines.**

## Be aware...

Low air loss overlay or bed: Treatment of excessive moisture should only relate to perspiration not wound drainage or incontinence. Be aware of bioaerosol contamination (throw-drop-spread) with infected wounds, respiratory infection and incontinence (fecal).

**Sol:** A colloidal dispersion in a liquid.

**Gel:** A jellylike substance formed by a colloidal solution in its solid phase: opposed to sol.