

Pressure and force management in seating
Understanding the complex influences of force and pressure on tissue integrity

This pre-conference will present clinically-relevant information about pressure and forces on the body as they relate to tissue integrity in wheelchair users.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Brief overview of state of knowledge as it pertains to clinical management

- Pressure magnitude and duration
- Personal factors that appear to influence load-bearing and tissue health

Impact of sitting on tissue deformation

- Complexity of tissue deformation
- Variation in biomechanical risk across wheelchair users
- Inconsistent relationship between IP and deformation
- Influences of cushion type and posture

Bench testing of cushions to gage load-bearing performance

Measurement of interface pressure magnitude

- Interface pressure measurement and strategies for use

Overview of in-seat movement and its relationship to tissue health

- In-seat movement of wheelchair users
- Weight shifts and leans and their impact on pressure and blood flow
- Identify clinical implications and interventions
- Training
- Current and emerging reminder systems

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Attendees will be able to

- Differentiate between force, pressure, friction and shear stress with respect to tissue integrity
- Identify key features of pressure measurements that distinguish cushion performance
- Formulate education and training strategies based upon pressure relief and weight shift measurements