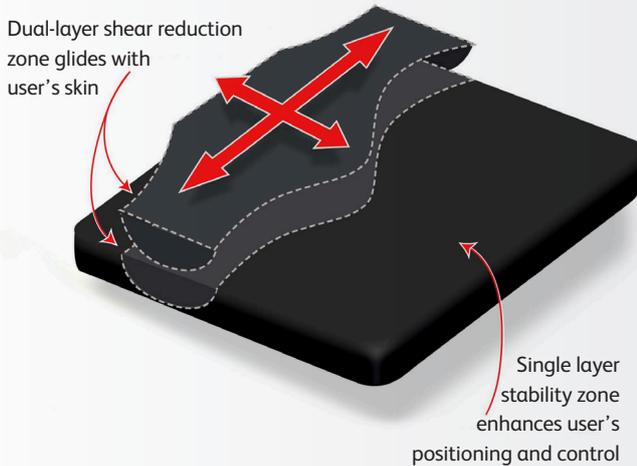


## Cushion Cover by GlideWear®

Reduce shear forces while maintaining posture and control



GlideWear® is a solution for wheelchair users who are at risk of tissue breakdown due to friction and shear. GlideWear® fits most wheelchair cushions. Its dual-layered Shear Reduction Zone™ glides with the user's skin while the single-layered stability zone enhances user positioning and control. The GlideWear® fabric is lightweight and breathable which helps reduce moisture build-up, thus maintaining skin integrity. Construction: 85 % Nylon, 15 % Spandex. 100 % Polyester Thread. Meets 16CFR1610 'Standard for the flammability of clothing textiles'.

Sizes: Choose from 3 sizes, based on current cushion size.

### GlideWear® Cushion Cover

Name	Fits Cushions Sizes
GW-SIT-SML	14" x 14" to 16" x 16"
GW-SIT-MED	16" x 16" to 18" x 18"
GW-SIT-LRG	18" x 18" to 20" x 20"

## Shear Protection Underwear

GlideWear® Shear Protection Underwear as the name suggests, protects from the friction and shear that can occur between sensitive skin and the seating surface. The silk-like, low friction, gliding material provides comfort and lasting protection to the skin at risk of breakdown.

### Benefits

- Protection goes with the person rather than with their cushion
- Targetted friction and shear reduction to address tissue breakdown due to shear forces around bony prominences
- Breathable fabric that prevents moisture build-up



### GlideWear® Underwear

Name	Fits Waist	Description
GW-UND-S	28" - 30"	Unisex - Small
GW-UND-M	32" - 34"	Unisex - Medium
GW-UND-L	36" - 38"	Unisex - Large
GW-UND-XL	40" - 42"	Unisex - Extra Large
GW-UND-XXL	44" - 46"	Unisex - Extra Extra Large

Latex-free materials

# Tissue Integrity

## Forces of Pressure, Shear, and Friction

The forces of Pressure, Shear, and Friction are individually and collectively potential causes of damage to skin, but are also important elements of keeping us in our seats! To get a better understanding of the differences between these elements, try the following exercise. Place your hands together as in a praying position:

### Pressure

As you push one hand towards the other, the forces you feel are Pressure – at right angles to the surfaces (palms) of the hands.



### Shear

While the hands are pushed together, try to slide one hand up and one hand down without either hand actually moving. The forces in those up and down directions being felt on the skin is known as Shear Stress (and will be at right angles to the Pressure forces). You will also be able to sense the skin under the surface being distorted by this action: this distortion is called Shear Strain.



### Friction

If the up and down forces are increased, eventually the two hands will slide apart. This movement provides Dynamic Friction as the two skin surfaces resist moving over each other.

The damaging effect of Pressure for too long can lead to blood vessels being occluded, and can result in vertical distortion of tissues alongside non-compressible items such as bone. Since the damaging effects are not immediate, regular changes of position can stop localised pressure build-up for too long.

Shear Forces, on the other hand, produce immediate and potentially more harmful Shear Strain distortions to both blood vessels and to cell tissues. The Shear Strain that happens around our skin where it meets the support surface when we sit or lie down will not only affect the blood vessels, but it will also distort the cells of the skin. Hence it is important to select the support surface material carefully because the degree to which the support surface can absorb these distortions will reduce the distortions to the skin's cells.

Dynamic Friction occurs when the Shear Forces reach the point where the Shear Stress between two surfaces cannot hold them together any longer: the surfaces will move over each other which could damage the cells of the skin. Again, the materials of the support surface will have a major influence on the potential damage caused to the skin when movement occurs across the surface.

# Heel-Ankle Socks

GlideWear® Socks provide targeted shear reduction to heels and ankles that can occur due to badly fitting footwear, hiking boots, sports footwear, orthopaedic braces, etc. The fabric is breathable to prevent moisture build-up, thus maintaining tissue integrity. Also suitable for use in bed to protect the heels and ankles from skin damage.

### GlideWear® Heel-Ankle Socks

Code	Size
GW-SX6-SML	Small
GW-SX6-MED	Medium
GW-SX6-LRG	Large
GW-SX6-XL	Extra Large

