

HealthTech Programme

Slide sheets for repositioning or moving a person: late-stage assessment

Draft guidance consultation comments

Comment number	Consultee	Section number	Comment	Response
1	Company 1	General	Thanks for sending this through. We have reviewed and have no further comments to add.	Thank you for your comment.
2	Company 2	3.8	<p><i>“The clinical experts also highlighted that some potentially innovative features of slide sheets, such as straps, handles, top clip loops and hook-and-loop fasteners, may have disadvantages. They explained that handles can encourage lifting rather than sliding, which substantially increases the risk of accidents and musculoskeletal injuries. The committee also heard that some of these features can affect infection control. The committee concluded that the usefulness of these features depends on the carer and the person being moved or repositioned. These features are only likely to be of value in some situations, for example to avoid overreaching when moving or repositioning someone with overweight or obesity.”</i> – These potential disadvantages are anecdotal and were not explored in detail in the user preference survey. While the evidence recommendation around this area is welcome, it should be made clear in this section (3.8) that these statements are only the opinion of the clinical experts involved.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. Section 3.8 of the guidance has been amended to clarify that the committee’s conclusions are based on expert feedback. The paucity of published evidence is noted in section 3.4 of the guidance.</p>

Comment number	Consultee	Section number	Comment	Response
3	Company 2	3.22	<p><i>“The committee considered an exploratory analysis that included the cost and utility impact of pressure ulcer reduction from using in situ slide sheets, and acknowledged that this increased the benefit of in situ slide sheets. The committee also discussed an exploratory analysis that investigated the potential value of using in situ slide sheets in acute care. The clinical experts explained that implementing in situ slide sheets in acute care across the NHS would require significant infrastructure changes, guidance and training.” “It also recalled that in situ slide sheets were likely to be a cost-saving option in long-term care settings, particularly community care. It concluded that washable and in situ slide sheets may be worth paying more for.”</i> – The statements above suggest that in situ slide sheets may have benefits for longer term care in general, rather than only in the community. Whilst infrastructure changes are an important consideration, the recommendation may be revisited to include all long-term care, not only in the community.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. Section 3.16 of the guidance explains that the external assessment group’s (EAG) economic model compared situ slide sheets with washable slide sheets in the community because it used parameters from the only available non-acute care study. The EAG did exploratory modelling for an acute setting but there were concerns from experts about the infrastructure changes needed as well as guidance and training required and issues with laundering. Therefore, the guidance reflects that the evidence considered was in a community setting. However, section 3.22 of the guidance has been amended to clarify that in situ slides sheets showed potential to be cost saving across any long-term care setting.</p>