

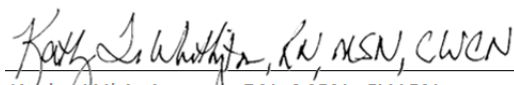
Subject: CPR on foam and/or foam and air combination powered and non-powered therapeutic support surfaces (mattresses)

Span-America offers a variety of specialty support surfaces designed to provide proven pressure redistribution, alternating pressure, lateral rotation, and microclimate management using foam or a combination of foam and air cylinders. The ability to perform adequate chest compressions during CPR on a foam or foam/air mattress varies based on the firmness of or the ability of the mattress to inflate to the desired firmness. In keeping with the Standard for Life Support recommended by the American Heart Association, in general Span-America recommends use of a hard, level surface for performing CPR. This means moving the patient to the floor if possible, or using a crash board. Consult the owner's manual appropriate for the particular mode in use.

The American Nurses Association (ANA) states:

*"The risk of skin breakdown has led to the design and use of bed surfaces with pressure-distributing mattresses. Some of these mattresses are foam; others use air-filled tubes or containers. Many hospital beds incorporate a rapid-deflate mechanism for use in emergencies when chest compressions are required. **But regardless of the mattress type, it's common practice to place a rigid board under the patient's chest during chest compression.**"*

Source: 6 surprising best resuscitation practices. American Nurse Today (Official Journal of the ANA). March 2014 Vol. 9 No. 3. Author: Mike McEvoy, PhD, RN, CCRN, NRP



Kathy Whittington, RN, MSN, CWCN
Manager, Clinical Services



Derrill Darby,
VP, Quality

PS CPR
CO# 804