

Making Assistive Technology and Rehabilitation Engineering a Sure Bet

## **Sitting Pressure Ulcer Risk Assessment and Prevention Technology: A Focus Group Discussion**

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### **ABSTRACT:**

The Pressure Ulcer Risk Evaluation System (PURES) is an interdisciplinary research project being conducted by physical therapy (PT), electrical engineering, and computer engineering students with a goal of improving existing technology in pressure ulcer risk assessment. To investigate what areas of improvement would be most beneficial in a clinical setting, a focus group involving eight clinicians (PTs and OTs who are also ATPs) was conducted. The two questions posed to the focus group were: 1) What improvements or expansions in pressure mapping technology would be most beneficial for assessing which cushion meets the needs of a particular individual? 2) What type of data would be most beneficial in justifying the cost the cushion prescribed?

### **KEYWORDS:**

pressure mapping; pressure ulcers; risks factors; assessment; technology.

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