# Galaxy Pressure Mapping (18” x 16” Front to Back, Four Valve)

Date: April 7th, 2014
Patient: Female – Age 25 – Weight 135

In this study, the Galaxy Cushion was pressure mapped using an FSA system manufactured by Vista Medical. http://www.vista-medical.com/subsite/stretch.php The Galaxy cushion is Star Cushion’s patented contouring cushion which uses shaped cells, instead of merely different heights of cells to achieve anatomical contouring. The purpose of the pressure mapping was to determine the difference between a patient immersed in a Galaxy cushion and a patient seated on foam padded chair.

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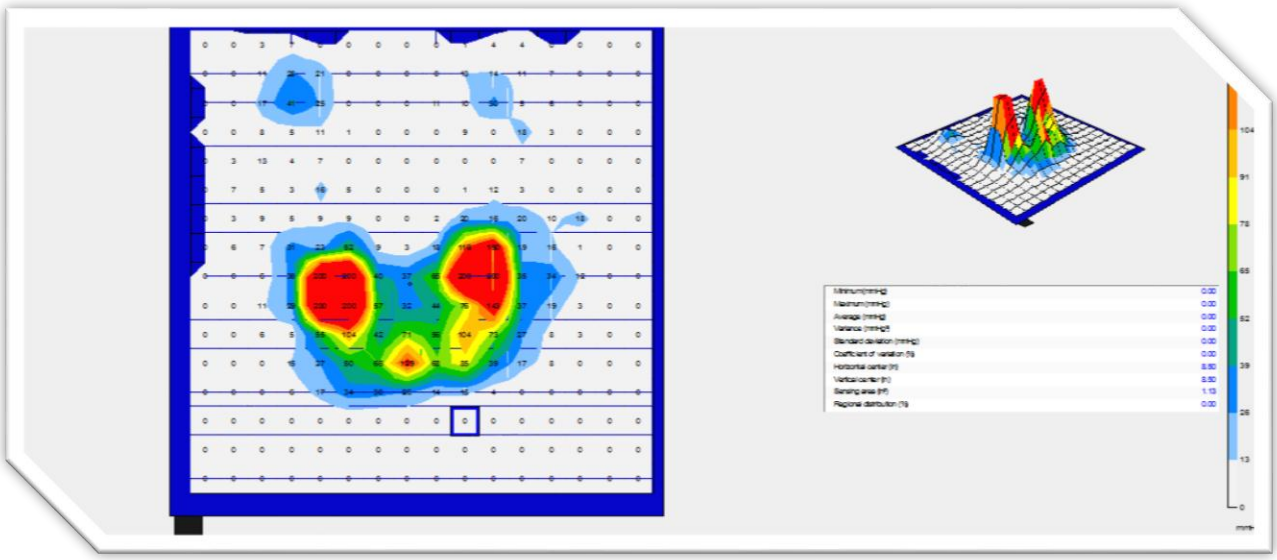
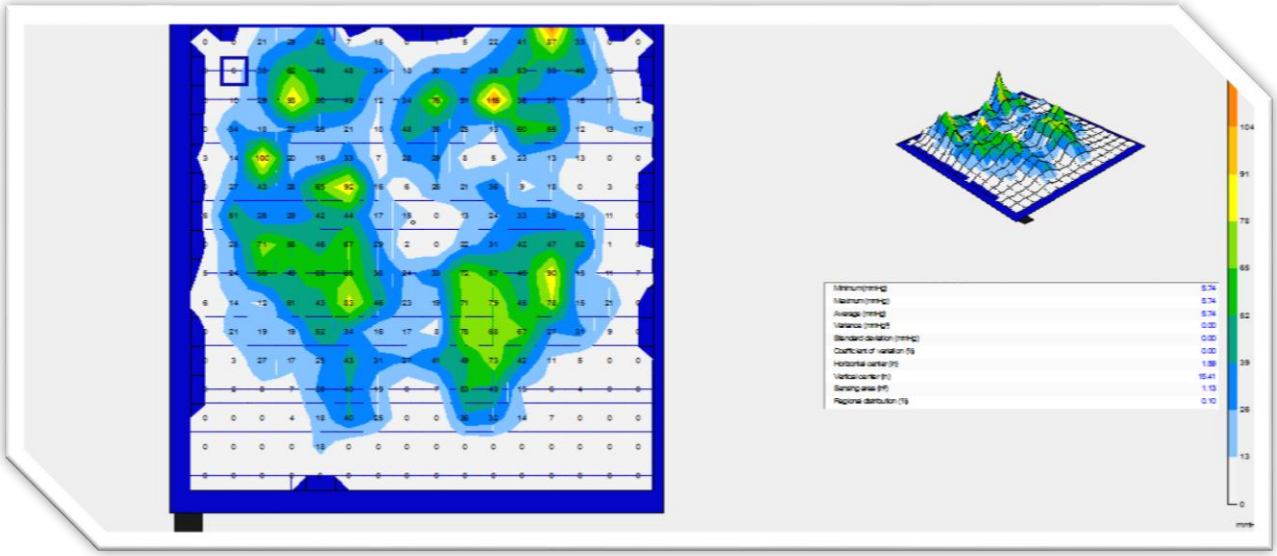
Pressure Mapping #1: Standard foam padded chair.

The first pressure mapping was performed in order to create a baseline comparison. The patient was seated on a padded foam chair, similar to those used in hospitals, long term care facilities, and rehab centers. Without any sort of pressure equalization or redistribution, we can note the pressure is localized in three main areas, indicated in red, directly under the patients’ ischial tuberosities and coccyx bone. These areas of the buttocks (ischial tuberosities) are the most frequent locations of pressure ulcers, along with the area directly under the tail bone (coccyx).



Pressure Mapping #2: Female patient was immersed into a Galaxy 18”x16” Front to Back, Four Valve Cushion.

The second pressure mapping was performed by properly immersing in the Galaxy cushion. This was done by seating the patient in the Galaxy cushion, opening the valves very briefly to allow a minimal amount of air to leave the cushion, and then closing the valves once the patient was slightly more immersed in the Galaxy cushion. The resulting pressure mapping shows that the patient’s weight has spread out to a much larger surface area, including the patient’s legs and more of the patient’s buttocks. In addition, the amount of pressure on any one spot has equalized to a point where there are no longer any red spots of high pressure, showing mainly greens and blue low pressure zones. The large red zones under the ischial tuberosities have turned green, in favor of a larger surface area. Furthermore, the Galaxy cushion, through its shaped coccyx cells, has completely offloaded pressure from the coccyx area, creating a void (or no contact zone).



Conclusion: The Galaxy cushion has completely offloaded pressure from the coccyx area, and reduced the pressure on the ischial tuberosities by spreading the patient’s weight to a much larger, and equalized, surface area. This environment is ideal for the prevention and healing of buttocks and coccyx pressure ulcers.