

Evaluation: ROHO® Agility™ Back System Stoke Mandeville

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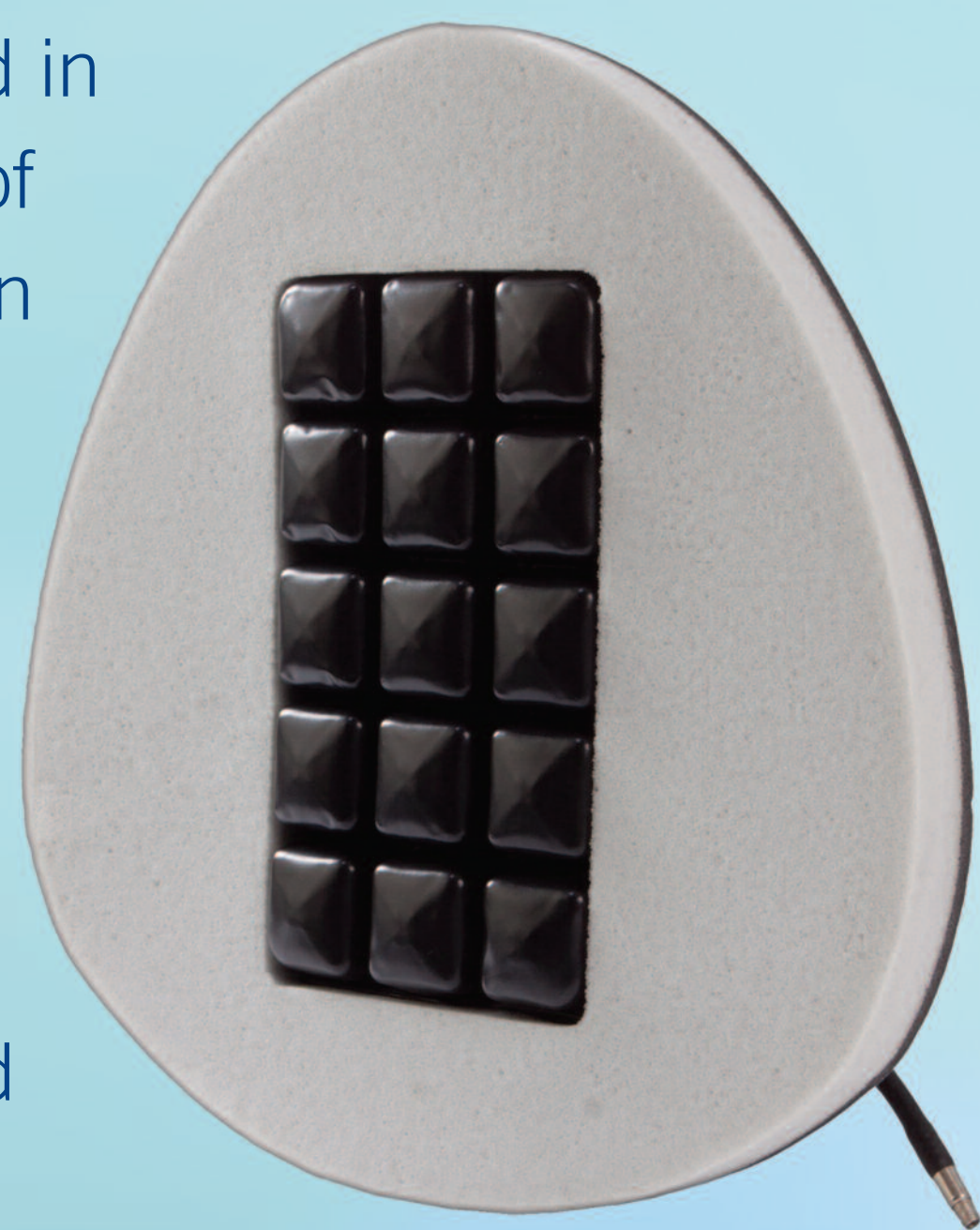
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LOUISE VINER

Louise has recently joined the team at Stoke Mandeville; she had previously worked as a specialist therapist for the Posture and Mobility Service in South Wales for the past 6 years.

Louise is currently looking at the importance of back support systems for spinal injured clients and so was keen to evaluate the new ROHO Agility Back System. She was particularly interested in looking at the effect of the ROHO air insert in providing additional comfort and protection of the vulnerable spinal processes. She was also pleased that lateral supports could be added to a contoured back shell.



ROHO AIR INSERT

CLIENT

The client chosen for the evaluation was a young man aged 22 who had recently been involved in a diving accident resulting in a C4 complete injury. During his rehabilitation at the NSIC, he is continually being assessed for his mobility needs. Both power and manual wheelchairs with back systems for postural management are currently used. Some lateral support is required for trunk stability and mid-line alignment to prevent spinal deformities developing. The mid contour Agility back was selected to provide lateral support with the option to add fixed or swing away lateral supports if required. A 18x20" shell was used to offer maximum support he is tall and his spinal injury is high.



CLIENT FOLLOWING ASSESSMENT AND FITTING OF ROHO AGILITY MID-CONTOUR BACK SYSTEM

FEEDBACK

The feedback from the patient was positive overall. He reported the backrest was more comfortable than the backrest he had been using previously however he did feel less "supported".



This could be remedied by using lateral supports or a narrower back width to suit the client rather than the wheelchair width. Agility Back stayed in place well and the carer reported it to be very easy to remove and replace. The client was unable to remove or replace the back rest at all as he has very limited arm and

shoulder movement and strength due to the extent of his injury. The appearance of Agility was acceptable to the client and he was happy to continue using it.

SET UP AND ADJUSTMENT

Using the ROHO Agility slide rule the exact sizing was determined for the wheelchair in use, this was straightforward, the only complication being the wheelchair width was slightly wider than the



LOCKING SYSTEM

true client back width as he has a slim torso. The brackets were attached to the back posts very easily and the back rest fitted in place well using the locking system to

ensure the back was held firmly in place (An additional advantage is that the brackets can be rotated if required to deliver a deeper seat depth if required).

Height adjustment of the back was found to be simple although rather time consuming due to having to undo the bolts to do this. In contrast adjusting the angle was very easy using a single allen key.

Adjusting the ROHO air insert to deliver the required level of inflation to support and provide comfort to the

client was straightforward using the single air inlet valve and pump but more difficult to check the exact inflation level than ROHO cushions due to the position of the air insert within the back.

The client and carer were briefed fully on the configuration of Agility and removing and replacing the back before trialling the backrest over a period of 2 weeks.



SINGLE-POINT TILT ADJUSTMENT

"ROHO Agility back offers an alternative postural back solution with improved comfort."

SUMMARY

ROHO Agility back offers an alternative postural back solution with improved comfort. The fitting and adjustment is straightforward and relatively quick with a good range of adjustment options. Agility brackets allow easy fitting and removal and stayed in place well, a full range of laterals are available including fixed, swing-away, straight and offset and a head rest can be used if required. Although a mid contour was used in this evaluation, a minimum contour is also available when less postural support is required and a deep contour version (with extensive adjustable air inserts throughout the back shell) will be introduced later in the year which will offer an exciting alternative where a high level of postural support and accommodation is required.

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