

# Standardising Mattress Provision to Realise Cost Savings in an Acute NHS Trust

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## Introduction

Kettering General Hospital is a 600 bed hospital that has historically used a mixture of both owned and rented equipment for use in the prevention of pressure ulcers. In order to ensure we were able to provide a high-quality, first line pressure prevention system for our patients, it was felt necessary to streamline the provision of equipment and reduce confusion for clinical staff by standardising to one type of equipment without compromising quality of care or increasing risk for patients.

## Method

The Trust formed a steering group with key people from the Trust to evaluate mattress systems, these included:



Infection Prevention



Tissue Viability



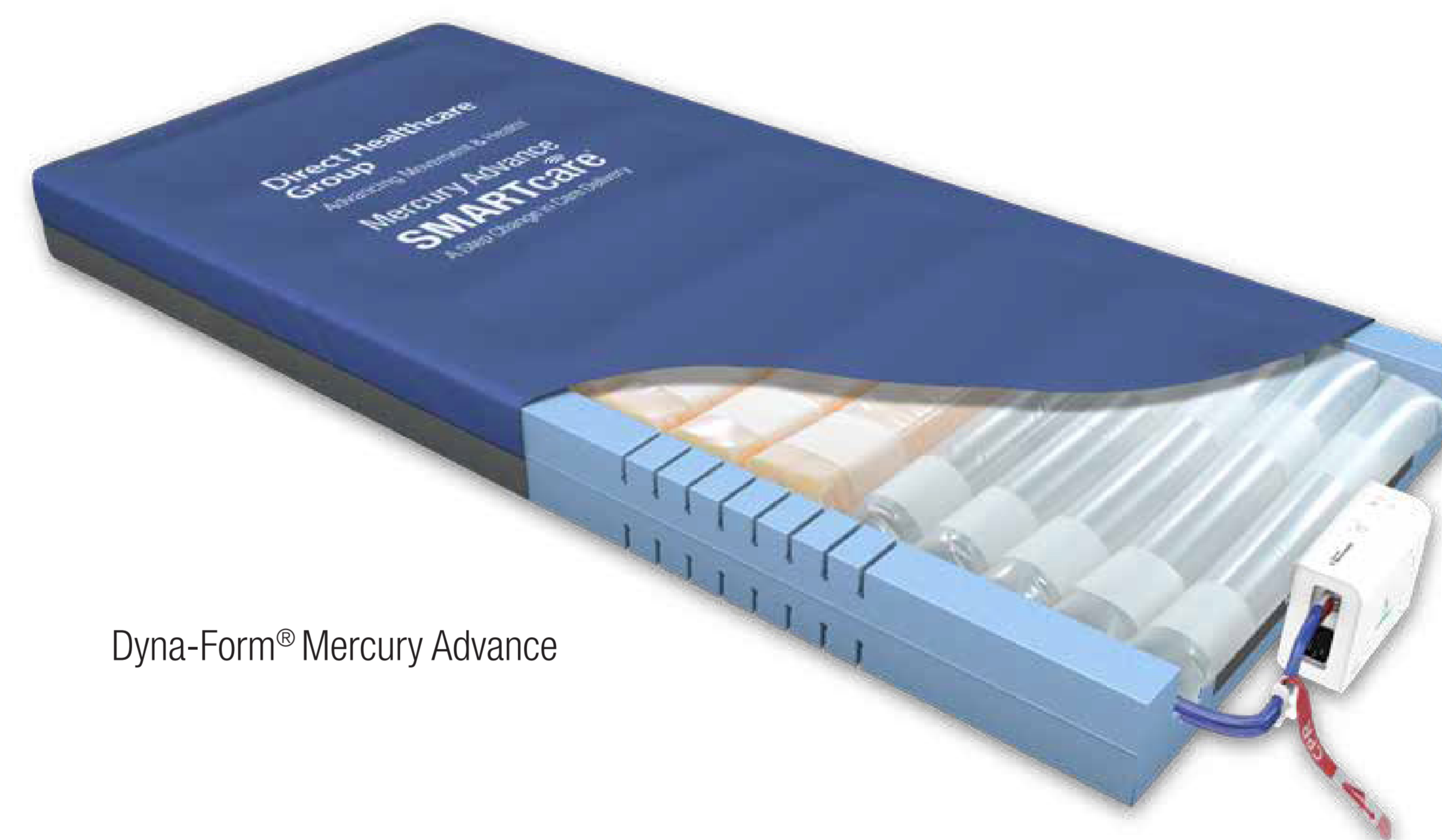
Portering



Medical Devices

Based on the profile of patients within the Trust's local environment and its working practices, a list of key features and attributes of our 'ideal' equipment was put together and companies were contacted to see if they could match our specification. Three companies submitted information and following review of their proposals it was felt that Direct Healthcare Group's Mercury Advance SMARTcare hybrid mattress best met the requirements that were identified.

The mattress enabled us to effectively meet the needs of our patients, promoting a high standard of care introducing a next-generation mattress throughout the Trust. This standardised the equipment fleet to a gold standard and replaced all static and dynamic mattresses in the trust, equating to 568 Mercury Advance SMARTcare and 5 Dyna-Form® Mercury Advance Bariatric systems. The install was completed in May of 2018.



Dyna-Form® Mercury Advance

## Results

Initial clinical results are positive and Kettering General Hospital are experiencing a large number of efficiencies from the outset. Further evaluation at 12 months will provide a detailed indication of clinical effectiveness.

“ Following the implementation of the Mercury Advance SMARTcare® the hospital expects to see a cost saving of **£50k+ per annum**”

Prior to standardisation, the hospital had an extensive number of rental mattresses, costing on average £98k per annum. These annual costs have now been eliminated and the hospital expects to see a complete cost saving from this of £50k+ per annum.

The hospital struggles with ward space and was typically finding it difficult to inflate dynamic mattresses, with nurses often having to leave the ward area to inflate a mattress. This inefficiency has been eliminated by the ability to step the mattress up to an alternating foam-in-air mattress with the simple addition of a pump.

Standardisation across the wards has also enabled the hospital to centralise and control the provision of pumps to each individual ward, removing the need for portering staff to locate and provide equipment and ensuring that the step-up in care is enabled efficiently.

## Conclusion

We have met and exceeded the need the group set out to achieve with a product that is already reaping the benefits we hoped for in patient care, cost saving and standardising the basic level intervention of mattresses provided to a high-level gold standard for all our patients.