



Caregiver Supply

Here to Help You

Helpful care tips from Teddy

What type of diaper is best for my patient?

One of the most common questions our customer service people receive is “What type of diaper is best for my patient?” Although there is no wrong application for any absorbent product, there are different styles of products that work better than others to provide maximum comfort and dignity for the patient.

We first start by getting information about the patient and the type of problem we are trying to solve. Does the patient have any control over the bladder or bowels? If so, are we guarding against the occasional spotting of undergarments, or a safeguard against accidents? If the patient has no control does he/she continue to go out into the public? Will the patients be changing the garment themselves? By getting answers to these questions, we can begin to make suggestions as to the type of product that may best serve the patient.

The best product for **full incontinence** (no control of either bladder or bowel) is the full brief or diaper. Although this may not offer the most dignity, it will contain most if not the entire void. In cases where the patient is bed ridden, the full brief and the absorbency it offers will also help reduce skin breakdown caused by the acid in urine.

For patients that have **some control**, the choices are almost endless. Liners for the underwear, belted undergarments, or pull-up style briefs, are just some of the product styles available. If someone is guarding against the occasional spotting, liners, and pull-up products offer protection as well as dignity with concealment of the product. The patient may also easily change these products. For occasional bowel problems you may consider full briefs, or pull-up (full brief style) products. Liners will not absorb all fecal matter so they offer little protection in this area. For patients using protection against the possibility of a void, the same practice would apply for the occasional spotting situation. Again, fecal void causes the most embarrassment, as well as damage to clothing and skin; overprotection should be the practice here.

Today’s market offers many choices for the consumer and caregiver in the area of incontinent protection. Make sure you first know the ability of the patient as well as the absorbency capability of the product you choose. As a special note, the more you involve the patient in the choice process the more likely the patient will be to accept the use of the item.

If you would like to discuss your special care situation with our experienced and friendly customer service representatives please give us a call. **We’re here to help you!**