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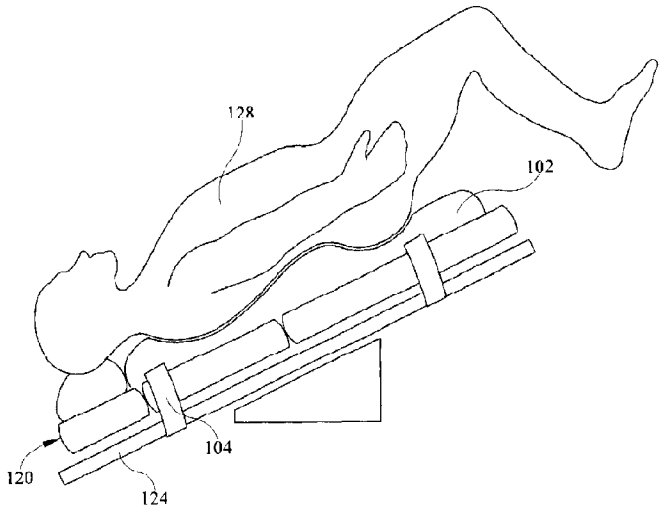
(54) Titre : PROCEDE DE FIXATION D'UN PATIENT SUR UNE TABLE D'OPERATION LORSQUE LE PATIENT EST EN POSITION DE TRENDELENBURG, ET APPAREIL ASSOCIE COMPRENANT UN KIT

(54) Title: A METHOD OF SECURING A PATIENT ONTO AN OPERATING TABLE WHEN THE PATIENT IS IN THE TRENDELENBURG POSITION AND APPARATUS THEREFOR INCLUDING A KIT



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:
A method of securing a patient onto an operating table when the patient is in the Trendelenburg position and apparatus therefor including a kit. A viscoelastic pad is used to support and hold a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure performed while the table, and thus the patient lying thereon, is in an inclined position, such as the Trendelenburg position. The viscoelastic pad has characteristics which promote a minimization of pressure forces on the patient's body, as well as promote a secure cushioning and holding of the patient in a desired position on the table, in order to minimize injury to the patient.

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(54) **Title**: A METHOD OF SECURING A PATIENT ONTO AN OPERATING TABLE WHEN THE PATIENT IS IN THE TRENDELENBURG POSITION AND APPARATUS THEREFOR INCLUDING A KIT

(57) **Abstract**: A method of securing a patient onto an operating table when the patient is in the Trendelenburg position and apparatus therefor including a kit. A viscoelastic pad is used to support and hold a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure performed while the table, and thus the patient lying thereon, is in an inclined position, such as the Trendelenburg position. The viscoelastic pad has characteristics which promote a minimization of pressure forces on the patient's body, as well as promote a secure cushioning and holding of the patient in a desired position on the table, in order to minimize injury to the patient.

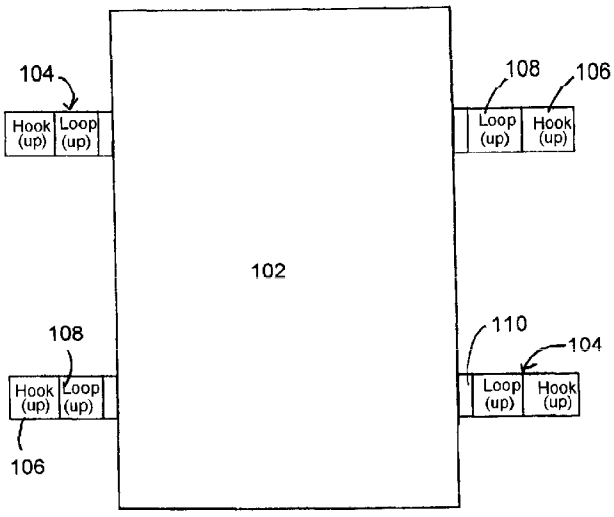

FIG. 1

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A METHOD OF SECURING A PATIENT ONTO AN OPERATING TABLE WHEN THE PATIENT IS IN THE TRENDELENBURG POSITION AND APPARATUS THEREFOR INCLUDING A KIT

BACKGROUND

1. Technical Field:

[0001] The present application relates to a method of securing a patient onto an operating table when the patient is in the Trendelenburg position and apparatus therefor.

2. Background Information:

[0002] Background information is for informational purposes only and does not necessarily admit that subsequently mentioned information and publications are prior art.

[0003] The Trendelenburg position is used in operations of the lower body such as the cervix. This position lowers the head of the patient so that the legs and lower extremities of the body are elevated above the head. Often the degree of lowering is approximately ten degrees to approximately twenty degrees such that the head is maintained with the back of the patient extending this range of angles below the lower body. At certain times the angle could be as much as approximately forty-five degrees. The angle may be between about five degrees to about forty-five degrees in one degree increments or fractions of one degree increments.

[0004] In order to keep any injury to the patient on the table to a minimum, various methods have been used to hold the patient on the table. These methods may injure the patient by providing unnecessary pressure to the neck, shoulders or arms, thereby aggravating injury to nerves and/or ulcers on the body of the patient because of the unnecessary pressure.

OBJECT OR OBJECTS

[0005] In order to reduce point pressures and small area pressures on the patient and also to reduce these kinds of pressures to the

nerves of the patient, the present application describes a Trendelenburg pad, kit, and methods of use of the Trendelenburg pad and kit to reduce such pressures.

SUMMARY

[0006] The pad is positioned on a support table, such as a medical procedure table, operating table, or surgical table, such that the pad extends from the buttock area of the patient to the shoulder and neck area of the patient. Straps are provided to hold the pad on to the operating table such that the pad does not extensively move during use. Further, straps may be provided to hold the patient to the operating table and firmly position the patient onto the pad.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] The present application is explained in greater detail below with reference to the accompanying drawings:

[0008] Figure 1 shows a top view of a Trendelenburg pad of the present application comprising fasteners;

[0009] Figure 2 shows a bottom view of the Trendelenburg pad as seen in Figure 1;

[0009] Figures 3A and 3B show fasteners configured to hold the Trendelenburg pad on the operating table;

[0010] Figure 4 shows a Trendelenburg pad of the present disclosure secured to an operating table and having a patient positioned thereon and also shows a method of use;

[0011] Figure 5 shows a Trendelenburg pad of the present disclosure having the impression of a patient therein;

[0012] Figure 6 shows a Trendelenburg pad of the present disclosure secured to an operating table in the Trendelenburg position and having a patient positioned thereon; and

[0013] Figure 7 shows a figure disposed on a Trendelenburg pad of the present application.

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENT OR EMBODIMENTS

[0014] During performance of some medical procedures, such as surgical operations, a patient may be placed on a support or operating table which is oriented horizontally, that is, perpendicularly with respect to the vertical. However, depending on the medical procedure, it may be more advantageous to orient the support or operating table, and thus the patient, at an incline with respect to the horizontal. For medical procedures relating to the lower body, such as, for example, abdominal or gynecological operations, the Trendelenburg position may be used. This position involves a patient first lying horizontally on a support table. The operating table or a portion thereof is then inclined such that the head and upper torso of the patient is at a vertically lower position than the pelvic region and/or legs of the patient, as shown, for example, in Figure 6. In general, the support table is inclined such that the patient's head and upper torso is lowered from the horizontal anywhere in a range of approximately five, ten, or fifteen degrees to approximately twenty, thirty, or forty-five degrees or more, in a steep Trendelenburg position, in one degree increments or fractions of one degree increments. In addition to the positive Trendelenburg position, there is a negative or reverse Trendelenburg position, where the head and upper torso is at a vertically higher position than the pelvic region and/or legs of the patient. As used herein, the phrase Trendelenburg position should be understood as referring to both positions.

[0015] The present application discloses the use of a memory foam or viscoelastic foam pad, such as shown in Figure 1, to assist in holding the patient in a desired position on an inclined support table, such as in the Trendelenburg position, and to assist in minimizing sliding, shifting, or similar undesirable movements of the patient on the support table, which movements could be disruptive to a medical procedure being performed on the patient. The viscoelastic foam also cushions and supports the patient while promoting a distribution of pressure forces across the patient's body to reduce and/or minimize damage to nerves and/or tissue from concentrated pressure forces.

For example, the viscoelastic foam will minimize or can eliminate brachial plexopathy, including pain, decreased movement, or decreased sensation in the arm and shoulder by minimizing pressure to a patient's neck, arms, and/or shoulders, and thereby minimizing or reducing a nerve event. In at least one possible embodiment, the viscoelastic foam has characteristics which are selected to promote the preceding desired effects, which will be discussed in the following paragraph. All of the characteristics discussed in the following paragraph are according to at least one possible embodiment, and it should be understood that any one or more of the characteristics could be combined with any one or more of the characteristics according to at least one possible embodiment, and any ranges disclosed in the following paragraph are to be understood as including any value therein, including increments of tenths and hundredths of the particular range.

[0016] The rate of recovery, that is, the time required for a viscoelastic foam to return to its starting shape, is in the range of approximately 2-10 seconds for approximately 50 percent to 80 percent recovery after deformation caused by placing an adult torso on an approximately one inch thick layer of viscoelastic foam. The rate of recovery is in the range of approximately 6-15 seconds for approximately 80 percent to 90 percent recovery after the same deformation as above. The rate of recovery is in the range of approximately 10-35 seconds for 100 percent recovery after the same deformation as above. The ball rebound of the viscoelastic foam is in the range of less than or substantially less than approximately one percent to approximately one percent or several percent, or is in the range of or approximately in the range of 0.1 percent to 1.9 percent, or up to 3 percent or 5 percent, and as much as several percent. The compression set (the residual compression of the foam after twenty-two hours at seventy degrees Celsius) of the viscoelastic foam, for a 25 percent compression of the foam, is in the range of less than one percent or tenths of a percent, such as, for example, less than 0.4 percent or 0.3 percent, to several percent. The compression set of the

viscoelastic foam, for a fifty percent compression of the foam, is in the range of less than one percent or tenths of a percent, such as, for example, less than or equal to 0.5 percent, to several percent. The indentation force deflection of the viscoelastic foam, at a 25 percent deflection, is in the range of several pounds of force to tens of pounds of force, such as in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds, or in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds, or is in the range of approximately 12 pounds, such as, for example, 11.7, 11.8, 11.9, 12.0, 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, and 12.4 pounds. The coefficient of static friction between the viscoelastic foam and the surface of a support table is greater than 0.2, or is in the range of approximately 0.2 or 0.5 to approximately 0.7 or 1.0. The viscoelastic foam is designed such that the patient may shift on the viscoelastic foam less than one inch, or up to approximately an inch, or in the range of approximately one inch to approximately three inches. The airflow in or through the viscoelastic foam is in the range of tenths of a cubic foot per minute to several cubic feet per minute, such as, for example, approximately 0.1 or 0.3 cubic foot per minute to approximately 1.0 or 3.0 cubic feet per minute, or is in the range of approximately or equal to 0.53 cubic feet per minute, plus or minus 0.3 cubic feet per minute. The thickness of the viscoelastic foam is in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to one inch, or to approximately one inch, or to one and a half inches, or to three inches or greater, which thickness is selected to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on the operating table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient lying on the viscoelastic foam pad, depending on the weight and/or size of the patient. The tensile strength (at 25 percent deflection) of the viscoelastic foam is in the range of at least approximately 5 pounds per square inch (PSI) or approximately 8 PSI to approximately 12 PSI or approximately 15 PSI, or is in the range of approximately or equal to 10 PSI. The tear strength (in a twenty inches per minute test) of the viscoelastic foam is in the range of approximately one to approximately two or three pounds of force per inch, or in the range of approximately 1.5 pounds of force per inch.

The elongation (in a twenty inches per minute test) of the viscoelastic foam is in the range of between 125 and 250 percent, or is in the range of approximately or equal to 172 percent, plus or minus 25 percent. The nominal density of the viscoelastic foam is in a range of approximately 100 kilograms per cubic meter, or is in the range of approximately 75 or 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 or 110 kilograms per cubic meter, such as, for example, 93.1 kilograms per cubic meter. The flammability of the viscoelastic foam should pass various tests by CAL, FMVSS and FAR, and the viscoelastic foam should pass the European Union's Restriction of Hazardous Substances (EU RoHS) standards.

[0017] According to at least one possible embodiment, the viscoelastic foam pad can be of varying lengths, and can extend from either the feet, lower legs, thighs, or buttocks of a patient to either the shoulders, head, or top of the head of a patient. According to at least one possible embodiment, the viscoelastic foam pad or substantial portions thereof are pink in color, the straps for securing the patient to the pad are purple in color, and the straps for securing the pad to the table or surface are white.

[0018] As shown in Figure 1, a Trendelenburg pad 102 may comprise fasteners 104 extending beyond longitudinal sides of the Trendelenburg pad 102. Each end of the fasteners 104 may comprise a hook and loop fastener, such as a Velcro® fastener, configured and disposed to attach the Trendelenburg pad 102 to operating table rails or other adjacent structures, depending on the support structure on which the patient is positioned, which may or may not be an operating bed. For example, each end of a fastener 104 may comprise a loop portion 108 and a hook portion 106, extending beyond the loop portion 108. Additionally, one or more portions of the fasteners 104 extending beyond the Trendelenburg pad 102 may comprise a label 110 indicating the orientation that the Trendelenburg pad 102 is to have with an operating table. For example, the label 110 may state “this side up.”

[0019] In at least one possible embodiment of the present application, the Trendelenburg pad 102 may be a disposable pad

and/or single-use pad.

[0020] Figure 2 shows a bottom view of a Trendelenburg pad 102 comprising fasteners 104 extending latitudinally therewith. A central portion 112 of the fasteners 104 may be configured to be fastened with the Trendelenburg pad 102. For example, the central portion 112 may comprise hooks configured and disposed to fasten with loops on the Trendelenburg pad 102. The Trendelenburg pad 102 may be configured to fasten with two or more fasteners 104. The fasteners may be Velcro®.

[0021] Figures 3A and 3B show a top view and a side view of a fastener 104 respectively. A central portion 112 of fastener 104 may comprise loops on a side configured to fasten with hooks on a Trendelenburg pad 102 as shown in Figure 2. A weld 115 may secure a hook portion 108 and a loop portion 106 to the central portion 112 wherein the ends of fastener 104 comprises a hook portion 108 and a loop portion 106. It is to be understood that either portion 108 or 106 may comprise hooks and the other of 108 or 106 may comprise loops. A label 110 may be secured to an upper side of hook portion 108. An end of the hook portion 108 may be folded and welded at a weld point 111 to form a tab 109. Hooks 113 may extend from a lower surface of the hook portion 108. Loops 107 may extend from a lower surface of the loop portion 106.

[0022] Figure 4 shows a use of Trendelenburg pad 102. For example, Trendelenburg pad 102 may be used by:

[0023] 1. Placing a surgical operating table 120, having surgical operating table rails 124, in a Lithotomy Position.

[0024] 2. Placing a longitudinal distal end of the Trendelenburg pad 102 on a longitudinal distal end of the surgical operating table 120.

[0025] 3. Latitudinally centering the Trendelenburg pad 102 with the surgical operating table 120.

[0026] 4. Positioning straps 104, extending from longitudinal edges of the Trendelenburg pad 102, down away from where a patient 128 will lie.

[0027] 5. Attaching the straps 104 to the surgical operating table

rails 124.

[0028] 6. Laying a lift sheet 126 over the Trendelenburg pad 102.

[0029] 7. Laying a patient 128 on the Trendelenburg pad 102 by positioning the patient 128 so that the patient's shoulders do not extend past edges of the Trendelenburg pad 102.

[0030] 8. Lifting the lift sheet 126 thereby lifting the patient 128 up and off the Trendelenburg pad 102 to reposition the patient 128 as needed.

[0031] 9. Positioning the patient's arms as needed.

[0032] 10. Attaching body straps 130 around the patient and the surgical operating table.

[0033] 11. Securing the patient's legs in stirrups 122.

[0034] 12. Placing the surgical operating table in the Trendelenburg position.

[0035] In at least one possible embodiment of the present application, a patient may be disposed on a Trendelenburg pad 102 such that the patient's skin contacts the Trendelenburg pad 102, for example that the patient's skin contacts the Trendelenburg pad 102 in the patient's sacrum and scapula areas of the body and held by the Trendelenburg pad 102. The lift sheet 126 may be used to lift and reposition the patient without dragging the patient across the Trendelenburg pad.

[0036] Also shown in Figure 4 are body straps 130. The body straps 130 may comprise a hook strap 132 and a loop strap 134, such as a Velcro® strap. Each hook strap 132 and each loop strap 134 may comprise a clasp at one end. A hook strap 132 may be secured to a operating table rail 124 by looping therearound and extending through the clasp. A loop strap 134 may be secured to the other operating table rail 124 by looping therearound and extending through the clasp, or secured by extending the hook strap 132 around or to some other portion of the operating table. The hook strap 132 and the loop strap 134 may be fastened about a patient 128, holding the patient 128 to the Trendelenburg pad 102. It is to be understood that body straps 130 are optional as the Trendelenburg pad 102 may

provide adequate support of the patient 128 a on surgical operating table 120.

[0037] Figure 5 shows a Trendelenburg pad 102 having an impression or residual compression 130 of a patient therein. The Trendelenburg pad 102 comprises viscoelastic foam which conforms to the patient's body and shapes itself to support the body. This shape minimizes pressure points on the body and helps to hold the body on the operating table.

[0038] The holding quality or ability between the Trendelenburg Pad and a patient will be a combination of the coefficient of friction between the patient and the viscoelastic foam and the holding ability of the impression made by the patient in the viscoelastic foam, because the Trendelenburg pad is made of a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after the patient is moved from one position to another or from the operating table (see Figure 5). The equivalent total frictional characteristic, which includes the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic foam deformation, may be equal to or in excess of one. That is to say, the normal, perpendicular force onto the viscoelastic pad from the body of the patient and component of the force of gravity on the patient parallel to the surface of the operating table at forty-five degrees are equal, which means that the equivalent total frictional characteristic will be equal to or greater than the normal, perpendicular force. For an angle of forty-five degrees, the equivalent total frictional characteristic is one, which is [sin45°/cos45°]. Stated more generally, the equivalent total frictional characteristic would be greater than the sine of the angle of inclination from the horizontal over the cosine of the angle of inclination from the horizontal. Since the angle can vary in one degree or smaller increments, the range of values of the equivalent total frictional characteristic could vary between any of those angles so as to be at least or greater than the sine over cosine values of each of these angles of inclination at least within the range of greater than zero degrees to forty-five degrees and also somewhat over forty-five degrees

and even greater. The holding capabilities are a combination of the holding ability of the pad, the body straps, and the coefficient of friction of the pad with respect to the patient and the table, between the pad and the sheet between the pad and the patient, and between the sheet and the patient, for all described angles.

[0039] Figure 6 shows a Trendelenburg pad 102 of the present application secured to a surgical operating table 120 with fasteners 104. A patient 128 is positioned on the Trendelenburg pad 102, and the surgical operating table 120 is in the Trendelenburg position. Also shown in Figure 6 is an aspect of the Trendelenburg pad 102 wherein body straps 130 are not needed to hold a patient 128 on the surgical operating table 120 in the Trendelenburg position.

[0040] Figure 7 is a computer illustration of a person disposed on a Trendelenburg pad of one possible embodiment of the present application. The figure of the person is transparent or see-through, permitting a view of the impression on the Trendelenburg pad made by the figure of the person. The impression on the Trendelenburg pad may provide the primary holding for holding a person on the operating table depending on the angle of the patient on the table.

[0041] When a table is inclined at a forty-five degree angle, if W is the weight of a patient, the normal force perpendicular to the surface of the operating table is 0.707W. The force along the table is 0.707W. The equivalent coefficient of friction including the actual coefficient of friction and holding ability of the Trendelenburg pad and the fasteners 130 of the present application to hold a patient is 1.00.

[0042] The positioning arrangement and arrangements in the present application could be used in gynecological procedures, colorectal procedures, urological procedures, laparoscopic procedures, and robotic procedures to name some procedures to use this pad in the Trendelenburg or the reverse Trendelenburg position or sideways tipped positions. The positioning arrangement and arrangements, and embodiments of the Trendelenburg pad and kit, in the present application could also be used in all types of medical procedures in which it may be desirable to place a patient in a secure and/or

reduced pressure point and/or comfortable position, which medical procedures include surgical procedures and non-surgical procedures, such as non-surgical examinations and/or treatments.

[0043] The viscoelastic foam of the present application may be a polyurethane foam made by mixing polyhydroxy polyol with toluene di-isocyanate or other and different methods as are known in the art. For example, Toluene di-isocyanate may be used in combination with polyester polyols and polyether to make viscoelastic foam.

[0044] In at least one other aspect of the present disclosure, the Trendelenburg pad 102 is about twenty inches wide, about thirty inches long, and about one inch thick. In one possible embodiment of the present application, the thickness of the pad may be in the range of approximately three-quarters of an inch to approximately one and one-half inches. In that range, the thickness may increase or decrease in increments of 1/32 of an inch. In one possible embodiment of the present application, the width of the pad may be in range of approximately twenty inches to approximately twenty-eight inches. In that range, the width may increase or decrease in increments of one-fourth of an inch or less. In one possible embodiment of the present application, the length of the pad may be in the range of approximately thirty inches to approximately forty inches. In that range, the length may increase or decrease in increments of one-fourth of an inch or less. The fasteners 104 may be Velcro® straps and may be about two inches wide. The fasteners 104 may be secured to the Trendelenburg pad 102 by welding, adhesive, hook and loop fastening, or by other means as is known in the art.

[0045] An example of a robotic surgery system, such as the Da Vinci Surgical System, is made by Intuitive Surgical, Inc., located at 1266 Kifer Road #101, Sunnyvale, CA 94086.

[0046] U.S. Patent No. 8,066,524, having the title “SURGICAL SYSTEM WITH ELECTRO-MECHANICAL INTERFACES TO MOUNT ROBOTIC SURGICAL ARMS,” issued on November 29, 2011, is an example of a patent relating to robotic procedures.

[0047] One feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the

time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in a method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient in the Trendelenburg position on a surgical operating table, and minimizing unwanted movement of a patient in the Trendelenburg position on a surgical operating table by securing a patient to the surgical operating table, and also minimizing contamination in an operating room, by using a single-use Trendelenburg patient support system comprising: a lift sheet configured to lift and position a patient on a surgical operating table, body straps configured to hold a patient down on a surgical operating table, a single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprising a rectangular shape and viscoelastic polyurethane, and securing straps welded to said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, which said securing straps are configured to secure said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad to rails of a surgical operating table, said method comprising the steps of: A) placing a longitudinal edge of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad adjacent and in alignment with a longitudinal edge of a surgical operating table having surgical operating table rails; B) placing a latitudinal edge of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad adjacent and in alignment with a latitudinal edge of said surgical operating table, and thus positioning said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad in a position on said surgical operating table where the body of a patient will be lying; C) positioning said securing straps, extending from longitudinal edges of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, to extend down and away from said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad; D) attaching said securing straps to said surgical operating table rails; E) laying said lift sheet over said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad; F) laying a patient in a supine position on said lift sheet and said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad by positioning said patient so that the shoulders of said patient do not extend past edges of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, and thereby deforming said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, which said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprises: sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion

the body of said patient to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on said medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of said patient during positioning of said patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions, and sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of said patient; G) lifting said lift sheet and thereby lifting said patient up and off said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad to reposition said patient as or if needed; H) positioning the arms of said patient as or if needed; I) attaching said body straps around said patient and said surgical operating table; J) positioning the legs of said patient in a lithotomy position; K) adjusting the angle of inclination of said surgical operating table to orient said patient at an angle in a Trendelenburg position in which the head of said patient is disposed below the body of said patient, or in which the head of said patient is disposed above the body of said patient, or in which the right side of a patient is disposed above the left side or vice versa, or a combination of any of these positions; and L) assisting in substantially holding the body of said patient on said surgical operating table in said lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions using said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, which said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprises: sufficient thinness to stabilize said patient on said surgical operating table upon said patient being in said lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions, and sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad of a depth sufficient to assist in holding said patient on said surgical operating table and/or minimizing undesired movement of the body of said patient on said surgical operating table during a surgical procedure performed while said patient is in said lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions.

[0048] Another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the method, wherein: said single-use Trendelenburg patient support system comprises a kit; said step D) comprises using securing straps

comprising a central portion, attached to a lower side of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener; said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater; and said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane foam having: a ball rebound sufficiently small to minimize rebound of said patient during an operation; a compression set sufficiently small to minimize discomfort of and injury to said patient on said surgical operating table; an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about said patient to minimize injury to said patient and maintain a patient in a useable Trendelenburg position; an indentation force deflection sufficient to provide a securing hold on said patient; a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad; a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad on said surgical operating table when said patient is on said surgical operating table; and a density configured to provide said ball rebound, said compression set, said air flow, said indentation force deflection, said tensile strength, and said coefficient of static friction.

[0049] Yet another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the method, wherein: said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad has a thickness of approximately one inch; said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent; said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than 0.3 percent; said air flow is in the range of 0.3 to 1.0 cubic foot per minute; said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds; said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; said coefficient of static friction is in the range of 0.2 to 1.0; and said density is in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

[0050] Still another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in a single-use Trendelenburg patient support system for performing the method, said single-use Trendelenburg patient support system comprising: a lift sheet configured to lift and position a patient on a surgical operating table; body straps configured to hold a patient down on a surgical operating table; a single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprising a rectangular shape and viscoelastic polyurethane; securing straps welded to said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad; said securing straps being configured to secure said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad to rails of a surgical operating table; said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprising: sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion the body of a patient to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on said medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a surgical procedure; sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient; sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on said surgical operating table upon a patient being in lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions; and sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad of a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said surgical operating table and/or minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on said surgical operating table during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions.

[0051] A further feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the single-use Trendelenburg patient support system, wherein: said single-use Trendelenburg patient support system comprises a kit; said body straps comprise hook and loop fasteners; said securing straps each comprise a central portion, attached to a lower side of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener; said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad

has a thickness of approximately one inch; and said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane having: a ball rebound in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent; a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than 0.3 percent; an air flow in the range of 0.3 to 1.0 cubic foot per minute; an indentation force deflection in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds; a tensile strength in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; a coefficient of static friction in the range of 0.2 to 1.0; and a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

[0052] Another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in a method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of a patient upon securing a patient to a medical procedure table, such as a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, and upon placing said medical procedure table in an inclined position, using a patient support system comprising a viscoelastic pad and securing straps, said method comprising the steps of: A) positioning said viscoelastic pad in a position on said medical procedure table where the body of a patient will be lying; B) attaching said securing straps, connected to said viscoelastic pad, to said medical procedure table; C) positioning a patient on said viscoelastic pad and thereby deforming said viscoelastic pad, which said viscoelastic pad comprises: sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion the body of said patient to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on said medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of said patient during positioning of said patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure, and sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of said patient; D) adjusting the angle of inclination of said medical procedure table to orient said patient at an angle in an inclined position, in which the

head of said patient is disposed below the body of said patient, or in which the head of said patient is disposed above the body of said patient, or in which the right side of a patient is disposed above the left side or vice versa, or a combination of any of these positions; and E) assisting in substantially holding the body of said patient on said medical procedure table using said viscoelastic pad, of which said viscoelastic pad comprises: sufficient thinness to stabilize said patient on said medical procedure table upon said patient being in said inclined position, and sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said viscoelastic pad of a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table and/or minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure performed while a patient is in an inclined position.

[0053] Yet another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the method, wherein: said patient support system further comprises at least one body strap; said patient support system comprises a kit; said method further comprises attaching said at least one body strap around said patient and said medical procedure table between steps C) and D); said step B) comprises using securing straps comprising a central portion, attached to a lower side of said viscoelastic pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener; said step D) comprises adjusting the angle of inclination of said medical procedure table to orient said patient in a Trendelenburg position; said viscoelastic pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater; and said viscoelastic pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane foam having: a ball rebound sufficiently small to minimize rebound of said patient during an operation; a compression set sufficiently small to minimize discomfort of and injury to said patient on said medical procedure table; an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about said patient to minimize injury to said patient and maintain a patient in an inclined position; an indentation force deflection sufficient to provide a securing hold on said

patient; a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic pad; a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said viscoelastic pad on said medical procedure table when said patient is on said medical procedure table; and a density configured to provide said ball rebound, said compression set, said air flow, said indentation force deflection, said tensile strength, and said coefficient of static friction.

[0054] Still another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in a patient support system for performing the method, said patient support system comprising: a viscoelastic pad; securing straps connected to said viscoelastic pad; said securing straps being configured to secure said viscoelastic pad to a medical procedure table; said viscoelastic pad comprising: sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion the body of a patient to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure; sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient; sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined position; sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined position, and sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said viscoelastic pad of a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table and/or minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure performed while a patient is in an inclined position.

[0055] A further feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support system, wherein: said patient support system further comprises at least one body strap configured to hold a patient down on a medical procedure table while a patient is in a Trendelenburg position; said patient support system comprises a kit; said at least one

body strap comprises hook and loop fasteners; said securing straps each comprise a central portion, attached to a lower side of said viscoelastic pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener; said viscoelastic pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater; and said viscoelastic pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane foam having: a ball rebound in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent; a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than one percent; a air flow in the range of 0.1 to 3.0 cubic foot per minute; a indentation force deflection in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds; a tensile strength in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; a coefficient of static friction is at least 0.2; and a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

[0056] Another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in a patient support arrangement configured to support and assist in holding a patient on an inclined medical procedure table, said patient support arrangement comprising: a pad comprising a thickness and a viscosity sufficient to cushion the body of a patient to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure, and to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure; said pad comprising a compliance sufficient to permit said pad to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient; said thickness being sufficiently small to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined position; and said thickness and said compliance being sufficient to permit deformation of said pad to a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and to assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while a patient is in an inclined position.

[0057] Yet another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said pad comprises a rebound, such as ball rebound, being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure.

[0058] Still another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent.

[0059] A further feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent.

[0060] One feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said pad comprises a compression set being sufficiently small to minimize discomfort of and injury to a patient on a medical procedure table.

[0061] Another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than one percent.

[0062] Yet another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than 0.3 percent.

[0063] Still another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said pad comprises an indentation force deflection sufficient to provide a securing hold on a patient.

[0064] A further feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said indentation force deflection

is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds.

[0065] Another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds.

[0066] Yet another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said pad comprises: a compression set being sufficiently small to minimize discomfort of and injury to a patient on a medical procedure table; and an indentation force deflection sufficient to provide a securing hold on a patient.

[0067] Still another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein: said pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater; and said pad comprises: an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient to minimize injury to a patient and maintain a patient in an inclined position; a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said pad; a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said pad on a medical procedure table when a patient is on a medical procedure table; and a density configured to provide said ball rebound, said compression set, said air flow, said indentation force deflection, said tensile strength, and said coefficient of static friction.

[0068] A further feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein: said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent; said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than one percent; said air flow is in the range of 0.1 to 3.0 cubic foot per minute; said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds; said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; said coefficient of static friction is at least

0.2; and said density is in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

[0069] Another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein: said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent; said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than 0.3 percent; said air flow is in the range of 0.3 to 1.0 cubic foot per minute; said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds; said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; said coefficient of static friction is in the range of 0.2 to 1.0; and said density is in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

[0070] Yet another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein at least one of a) - g): a) said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent; b) said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than one percent; c) said air flow is in the range of 0.1 to 3.0 cubic foot per minute; d) said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds; e) said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; f) said coefficient of static friction is at least 0.2; and g) said density is in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

[0071] Still another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein at least one of h) - n): h) said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent; i) said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than 0.3 percent; j) said air flow is in the range

of 0.3 to 1.0 cubic foot per minute; k) said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds; l) said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; m) said coefficient of static friction is in the range of 0.2 to 1.0; and n) said density is in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

[0072] A further feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein: said pad comprises a viscoelastic material; said patient support arrangement further comprises securing straps attached to said pad and at least one body strap; said securing straps are configured to secure said pad to a medical procedure table; said securing straps each comprise a central portion, attached to a lower side of said pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener; said at least one body strap is configured to hold a patient down on a medical procedure table while a patient is in a Trendelenburg position; and said patient support arrangement comprises a kit.

[0073] One feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in a patient support arrangement configured to support and assist in holding a patient in a Trendelenburg position on an inclined medical procedure table, in which the head of the patient is disposed below the body of the patient, or in which the head of the patient is disposed above the body of the patient, or in which the right side of the patient is disposed above the left side or vice versa, or a combination of any of these positions, said patient support arrangement comprising: a pad comprising a viscoelastic polyurethane foam; said pad comprising a thickness and softness sufficient to permit deformation of said pad to a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure performed while a patient is in a Trendelenburg position; and said pad being configured to recover from a deformation at a rate in a range sufficient to maintain support and

minimize disruptive movement of at least a portion of a body of a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure performed while a patient is in a Trendelenburg position.

[0074] Another feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in the patient support arrangement, wherein said rate of recovery of said pad is insufficient to assist in causing disruptive movement of at least a portion of a body of a patient.

[0075] One feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in a patient support arrangement configured to support and assist in holding a patient in an inclined position on an inclined medical procedure table, in which inclined position the head of the patient is disposed either below or above the body of the patient, said patient support arrangement comprising: a pad comprising a memory foam; and said pad comprising a thickness and softness sufficient to permit deformation of said pad to a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure performed while a patient is in said inclined position.

[0076] One feature or aspect of an embodiment is believed at the time of the filing of this patent application to reside broadly in a method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of a patient on an inclined medical procedure table, such as a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, using a patient support arrangement according to one of the embodiments disclosed herein and in the claims.

[0077] The appended drawings in their entirety, including all dimensions, proportions and/or shapes in at least one embodiment of the invention, are accurate and are hereby included by reference into this specification.

[0078] All, or substantially all, of the components and methods of the various embodiments may be used with at least one embodiment or all of the embodiments, if more than one embodiment is described

herein.

[0079] The embodiments of the invention described herein above in the context of the preferred embodiments are not to be taken as limiting the embodiments of the invention to all of the provided details thereof, since modifications and variations thereof may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the embodiments of the invention.

CLAIMS

1. A method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient in a Trendelenburg position on a surgical operating table, and minimizing unwanted movement of a patient in the Trendelenburg position on a surgical operating table by securing a patient to the surgical operating table, and also minimizing contamination in an operating room, by using a single-use Trendelenburg patient support system comprising: a lift sheet configured to lift and position a patient on a surgical operating table, body straps configured to hold a patient down on a surgical operating table, a single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprising a rectangular shape and viscoelastic polyurethane, and securing straps welded to said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, which said securing straps are configured to secure said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad to rails of a surgical operating table,

said method comprising the steps of:

A) placing a longitudinal edge of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad adjacent and in alignment with a longitudinal edge of a surgical operating table having surgical operating table rails;

B) placing a latitudinal edge of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad adjacent and in alignment with a latitudinal edge of said surgical operating table, and thus positioning said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad in a position on said surgical operating table where the body of a patient will be lying;

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C) positioning said securing straps, extending from longitudinal edges of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, to extend down and away from said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad;

D) attaching said securing straps to said surgical operating table rails;

E) laying said lift sheet over said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad;

F) laying a patient in a supine position on said lift sheet and said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad by positioning said patient so that the shoulders of said patient do not extend past edges of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, and thereby deforming said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, which said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprises:

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion the body of said patient to at least one of: minimize bottoming out and prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of the body of said patient during positioning of said patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions, and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of said patient;

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G) lifting said lift sheet and thereby lifting said patient up and off said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad to reposition said patient as or if needed;

H) positioning the arms of said patient as or if needed;

I) attaching said body straps around said patient and said surgical operating table;

J) positioning the legs of said patient in a lithotomy position;

K) adjusting the angle of inclination of said surgical operating table to orient said patient at an angle in a Trendelenburg position in which the head of said patient is disposed below the body of said patient, or in which the head of said patient is disposed above the body of said patient, or in which the right side of a patient is disposed above the left side or vice versa, or a combination of any of these positions; and

L) assisting in substantially holding the body of said patient on said surgical operating table in said lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions using said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, which said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprises:

sufficient thinness to stabilize said patient on said surgical operating table upon said patient being in said lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions, and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said single-use, viscoelastic

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Trendelenburg pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of:

assist in holding said patient on said surgical operating table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of said patient on said surgical operating table, during a surgical procedure performed while said patient is in said lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein:

said single-use Trendelenburg patient support system comprises a kit;

said step D) comprises using securing straps comprising a central portion, attached to a lower side of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener;

said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater; and

said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane foam having:

a ball rebound sufficiently small to minimize rebound of said patient during an operation;

a compression set sufficiently small to minimize discomfort of and injury to said patient on said surgical operating table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about said

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patient to minimize injury to said patient and maintain a patient in a useable Trendelenburg position;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to provide a securing hold on said patient;

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad;

a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad on said surgical operating table when said patient is on said surgical operating table; and

a density configured to provide said ball rebound, said compression set, said air flow, said indentation force deflection, said tensile strength, and said coefficient of static friction.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein:

said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad has a thickness of approximately one inch;

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than 0.3 percent;

said air flow is in the range of 0.3 to 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10

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to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch;

said coefficient of static friction is in the range of 0.2 to 1.0; and

said density is in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

4. A single-use Trendelenburg patient support system for performing the method according to claim 1, said single-use Trendelenburg patient support system comprising:

a lift sheet configured to lift and position a patient on a surgical operating table;

body straps configured to hold a patient down on a surgical operating table;

a single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprising a rectangular shape and viscoelastic polyurethane;

securing straps welded to said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad;

said securing straps being configured to secure said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad to rails of a surgical operating table;

said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprising:

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion the body of a patient to at least one of: minimize bottoming out and

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prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a surgical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on said surgical operating table upon a patient being in lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions; and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on said surgical operating table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on said surgical operating table, during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in lithotomy and Trendelenburg positions.

5. The single-use Trendelenburg patient support system according to claim 4, wherein:

said single-use Trendelenburg patient support system comprises a kit;

said body straps comprise hook and loop fasteners;

said securing straps each comprise a central portion, attached to a

lower side of said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener;

said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad has a thickness of approximately one inch; and

said single-use, viscoelastic Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane having:

a ball rebound in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than 0.3 percent;

an air flow in the range of 0.3 to 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

an indentation force deflection in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

a tensile strength in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch;

a coefficient of static friction in the range of 0.2 to 1.0; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

6. A method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of a patient upon securing a patient to a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, and upon placing said medical procedure

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table in an inclined position, using a patient support system comprising a viscoelastic pad and securing straps, said method comprising the steps of:

A) positioning said viscoelastic pad in a position on said medical procedure table where the body of a patient will be lying;

B) attaching said securing straps, connected to said viscoelastic pad, to said medical procedure table;

C) positioning a patient on said viscoelastic pad and thereby deforming said viscoelastic pad, which said viscoelastic pad comprises:

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion the body of said patient to at least one of: minimize bottoming out and prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of the body of said patient during positioning of said patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure, and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of said patient;

D) adjusting the angle of inclination of said medical procedure table to orient said patient at an angle in an inclined position, in which the head of said patient is disposed below the body of said patient, or in which the head of said patient is disposed above the body of said patient, or in which the right side of a patient is disposed above the left side or vice versa, or a combination of any of these positions; and

E) assisting in substantially holding the body of said patient on said

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medical procedure table using said viscoelastic pad, of which said viscoelastic pad comprises:

sufficient thinness to stabilize said patient on said medical procedure table upon said patient being in said inclined position, and sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said viscoelastic pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while a patient is in an inclined position.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein:

said patient support system further comprises at least one body strap;

said patient support system comprises a kit;

said method further comprises attaching said at least one body strap around said patient and said medical procedure table between steps C) and D);

said step B) comprises using securing straps comprising a central portion, attached to a lower side of said viscoelastic pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener;

said step D) comprises adjusting the angle of inclination of said medical procedure table to orient said patient in a Trendelenburg position;

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said viscoelastic pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater; and

said viscoelastic pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane foam having:

a ball rebound sufficiently small to minimize rebound of said patient during an operation;

a compression set sufficiently small to minimize discomfort of and injury to said patient on said medical procedure table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about said patient to minimize injury to said patient and maintain a patient in an inclined position;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to provide a securing hold on said patient;

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic pad;

a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said viscoelastic pad on said medical procedure table when said patient is on said medical procedure table; and

a density configured to provide said ball rebound, said compression set, said air flow, said indentation force deflection, said tensile strength, and said coefficient of static friction.

8. A patient support system for performing the method according to

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claim 6, said patient support system comprising:

a viscoelastic pad;

securing straps connected to said viscoelastic pad;

said securing straps being configured to secure said viscoelastic pad to a medical procedure table;

said viscoelastic pad comprising:

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion the body of a patient to at least one of: minimize bottoming out and prevent bottoming out, on a medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined position;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined position, and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said viscoelastic pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure

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performed while a patient is in an inclined position.

9. The patient support system according to claim 8, wherein:

said patient support system further comprises at least one body strap configured to hold a patient down on a medical procedure table while a patient is in a Trendelenburg position;

said patient support system comprises a kit;

said at least one body strap comprises hook and loop fasteners;

said securing straps each comprise a central portion, attached to a lower side of said viscoelastic pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener;

said viscoelastic pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater; and

said viscoelastic pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane foam having:

a ball rebound in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than one percent;

a air flow in the range of 0.1 to 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

a indentation force deflection in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

a tensile strength in the range of approximately 5 pounds per

square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch;

a coefficient of static friction is at least 0.2; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

10. A method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, and upon placing said medical procedure table in an inclined, Trendelenburg position, using a patient support system comprising a viscoelastic pad, said method comprising the steps of:

A) positioning said viscoelastic pad in a position on said medical procedure table where the body of said patient will be lying;

B) positioning said patient on said viscoelastic pad and thereby deforming said viscoelastic pad, which said viscoelastic pad comprises:

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion the body of said patient to at least one of: minimize bottoming out and prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of the body of said patient during positioning of said patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure; and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the

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body of said patient;

C) adjusting the angle of inclination of said medical procedure table to orient said patient at an angle in said inclined, Trendelenburg position, in which the head of said patient is disposed below the body of said patient, or in which the head of said patient is disposed above the body of said patient, or in which the right side of said patient is disposed above the left side or vice versa, or a combination of any of these positions; and

D) assisting in substantially holding the body of said patient on said medical procedure table using said viscoelastic pad, of which said viscoelastic pad comprises:

sufficient thinness to stabilize said patient on said medical procedure table upon said patient being in said inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said viscoelastic pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding said patient on said medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of said patient on said medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in said inclined, Trendelenburg position.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein:

said viscoelastic pad has a thickness in the range of from three-

fourths of an inch to three inches or greater; and

said viscoelastic pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane foam having:

a ball rebound sufficiently small to minimize rebound of said patient during an operation;

a compression set sufficiently small to minimize discomfort of and injury to said patient on said medical procedure table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about said patient to minimize injury to said patient and maintain said patient in said inclined, Trendelenburg position;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to provide a securing hold on said patient;

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic pad;

a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said viscoelastic pad on said medical procedure table when said patient is on said medical procedure table; and

a density configured to provide said ball rebound, said compression set, said air flow, said indentation force deflection, said tensile strength, and said coefficient of static friction.

12. A patient support system for performing the method according to claim 10, said patient support system comprising:

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a viscoelastic pad;

said viscoelastic pad comprising:

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion the body of a patient to at least one of: minimize bottoming out and prevent bottoming out, on a medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said viscoelastic pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while a patient is in an inclined, Trendelenburg position.

13. The patient support system according to claim 12, wherein:

said viscoelastic pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater; and

said viscoelastic pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane foam

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having:

a ball rebound in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than one percent;

a air flow in the range of 0.1 to 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

an indentation force deflection in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

a tensile strength in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch;

a coefficient of static friction is at least 0.2; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

14. A patient support arrangement comprising:

a pad configured to be placed on a tiltable medical procedure table;

said pad having a length sufficient to extend from about at least the thighs of a patient to about at least the shoulders of a patient to support the torso of a patient placed on said pad;

said pad comprising a deformable material;

said deformable material being configured to be deformable by the torso of a patient to form a depression in said pad, which depression provides a substantial portion of the holding forces which hold a patient

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generally in a desired position on said pad upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle and thus the torso of a patient being tilted at an angle with respect to the horizontal, such that:

a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or

b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or

c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or

d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or

e) a combination of any of a), b), c), and d);

said deformable material has a rate of recovery sufficiently slow to maintain a depression in said pad for a desired period of time upon a change in a depression-generating force on said pad; and

said pad is configured to distribute pressure forces across a substantial portion of the torso of a patient in contact with said pad to minimize injuries generated by concentration of pressure forces on at least one portion of the torso of the patient in contact with said pad during a medical procedure.

15. The patient support arrangement according to claim 14, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having a

depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle and thus the torso of a patient being tilted at an angle with respect to the horizontal.

16. The patient support arrangement according to claim 15, wherein said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

17. The patient support arrangement according to claim 16, wherein said pad is sufficiently thin to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

18. The patient support arrangement according to claim 17, said pad is sufficiently thick to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure.

19. The patient support arrangement according to claim 18, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad, and said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in

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holding a patient on said pad, which coefficient of static friction and depression depth are sufficient to together provide at least a substantial portion of the holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

20. The patient support arrangement according to claim 19, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression.

21. The patient support arrangement according to claim 20, wherein:

said patient support arrangement comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad on a medical procedure table; and

said pad has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

22. The patient support arrangement according to claim 14, wherein said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to

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assist in holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

23. The patient support arrangement according to claim 14, wherein said pad is sufficiently thin to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

24. The patient support arrangement according to claim 14, said pad is sufficiently thick to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure.

25. The patient support arrangement according to claim 14, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression.

26. The patient support arrangement according to claim 14, wherein:

said patient support arrangement comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad on a medical

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procedure table; and

said pad has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

27. The patient support arrangement according to claim 14, wherein said deformable material comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said deformable material.

28. The patient support arrangement according to claim 27, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said deformable material further comprises:

a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

29. The patient support arrangement according to claim 27, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said deformable material further comprises:

a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

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a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

30. The patient support arrangement according to claim 27, wherein at least one of a)-g):

a) said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

b) said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

c) said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

d) said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch;

e) said deformable material comprises a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2;

f) said deformable material comprises a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately one percent; and

g) said deformable material comprises a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

31. The patient support arrangement according to claim 27, wherein at least one of h)-n):

h) said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

i) said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

j) said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

k) said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch;

l) said deformable material comprises a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

m) said deformable material comprises a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

n) said deformable material comprises a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

32. The patient support arrangement according to claim 14, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad, and said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad, which coefficient of static friction and depression depth are sufficient to together provide at least a substantial portion of the holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired

position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

33. The patient support arrangement according to claim 32, wherein said pad is sufficiently thin to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

34. The patient support arrangement according to claim 33, said pad is sufficiently thick to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure.

35. The patient support arrangement according to claim 34, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression.

36. A method of positioning a patient on a medical procedure table comprising:

positioning a pad, having a length sufficient to extend from about at

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least the thighs of a patient to about at least the shoulders of said patient, on a tiltable medical procedure table;

positioning at least the torso of said patient on said pad, which pad comprises a deformable material, and thereby forming a depression in said deformable material, which deformable material has a rate of recovery sufficiently slow to maintain the depression in said pad for a desired period of time upon a change in a depression-generating force on said pad;

tilting said medical procedure table at an angle, and thus positioning the torso of said patient at an angle with respect to the horizontal, such that the body of said patient is disposed in one of the positions a), b), c), d), and e), where a), b), c), d), and e) are:

a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or

b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or

c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or

d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or

e) a combination of any of a), b), c), and d); and

holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad on said tilted medical procedure table, using said depression in said pad to provide a substantial portion of the holding forces, while distributing pressure

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forces across a substantial portion of the torso of said patient in contact with said pad to minimize injuries generated by concentration of pressure forces on at least one portion of the torso of said patient in contact with said pad during a medical procedure.

37. The method according to claim 36, wherein said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction, and wherein said method further comprises using said coefficient of static friction to also provide a portion of the holding forces, such that said coefficient of static friction and depression are sufficient to together provide at least a substantial portion of the holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

38. The method according to claim 36, wherein said method further comprises preventing bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, by using a pad of sufficient thickness.

39. The method according to claim 36, wherein said patient support arrangement comprises a retaining arrangement, and said method further comprises at least assisting in the retention of said pad on a medical procedure table using said retaining arrangement.

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40. A patient support arrangement configured to support a body of a patient comprising thighs, shoulders, a torso, and a head, which patient has a right side and a left side, said patient support arrangement comprising:

a pad arrangement configured to be placed on a tiltable medical procedure table;

said pad arrangement having a length sufficient to extend from about at least the thighs of the patient to about at least the shoulders of the patient to support the torso of the patient placed on said pad arrangement;

said pad arrangement comprising a deformable material;

said deformable material being configured to be deformable by the torso of a patient to form a depression in said pad arrangement, which depression provides a substantial portion of holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad arrangement upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle and thus the torso of the patient being tilted at an angle with respect to horizontal, such that:

a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or

b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or

c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or

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d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or

e) a combination of any of a), b), c), and d);

said deformable material has a rate of recovery sufficiently slow to maintain a depression in said pad arrangement for a desired period of time upon a change in a depression-generating force on said pad arrangement; and

said pad arrangement is configured to distribute pressure forces across a portion of the torso of a patient in contact with said pad arrangement sufficient to minimize injuries generated by concentration of pressure forces on at least one portion of the torso of the patient in contact with said pad arrangement during a medical procedure.

41. The patient support arrangement according to claim 40, wherein said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad arrangement upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle and thus the torso of a patient being tilted at an angle with respect to the horizontal.

42. The patient support arrangement according to claim 40, wherein said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad

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arrangement upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

43. The patient support arrangement according to claim 42, wherein said pad arrangement is sufficiently thin to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

44. The patient support arrangement according to claim 40, said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to minimize bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure.

45. The patient support arrangement according to claim 40, wherein said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression.

46. The patient support arrangement according to claim 40, wherein:

said patient support arrangement comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on a

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medical procedure table; and

said pad arrangement has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

47. The patient support arrangement according to claim 40, wherein said deformable material comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said deformable material.

48. The patient support arrangement according to claim 47, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said deformable material further comprises:

a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

49. The patient support arrangement according to claim 47, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said deformable material further comprises:

a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

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a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

50. The patient support arrangement according to claim 47, wherein at least one of a)-g):

a) said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

b) said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

c) said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

d) said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch;

e) said deformable material comprises a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2;

f) said deformable material comprises a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately one percent; and

g) said deformable material comprises a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

51. The patient support arrangement according to claim 47, wherein at least one of h)-n):

h) said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

i) said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

j) said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

k) said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch;

l) said deformable material comprises a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

m) said deformable material comprises a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

n) said deformable material comprises a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

52. The patient support arrangement according to claim 40, wherein said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad arrangement, and said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad arrangement, which coefficient of static friction and depression depth are sufficient to together provide at least a substantial portion of the holding forces which

hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad arrangement upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

53. The patient support arrangement according to claim 52, wherein said pad arrangement is sufficiently thin to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

54. The patient support arrangement according to claim 53, wherein:

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to minimize bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure; and

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression.

55. The patient support arrangement according to claim 41, wherein:

said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad

arrangement upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle;

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thin to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle;

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to minimize bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure;

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad arrangement, and said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad arrangement, which coefficient of static friction and depression depth are sufficient to together provide at least a substantial portion of the holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad arrangement upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle;

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

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said patient support arrangement comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on a medical procedure table; and

said pad arrangement has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

56. A method of positioning a patient on a medical procedure table configured to support a body of a patient comprising thighs, shoulders, a torso, and a head, which patient has a right side and a left side, said method comprising:

positioning a pad arrangement, having a length sufficient to extend from about at least the thighs of a patient to about at least the shoulders of said patient, on a tiltable medical procedure table;

positioning at least the torso of said patient on said pad arrangement, which pad arrangement comprises a deformable material, and thereby forming a depression in said deformable material, which deformable material has a rate of recovery sufficiently slow to maintain the depression in said pad arrangement for a desired period of time upon a change in a depression-generating force on said pad arrangement;

tilting said medical procedure table at an angle, and thus positioning the torso of said patient at an angle with respect to horizontal, such that the body of said patient is disposed in one of the positions a), b), c), d), and e), where a), b), c), d), and e) are:

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a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or

b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or

c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or

d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or

e) a combination of any of a), b), c), and d); and

holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad arrangement on said tilted medical procedure table, using said depression in said pad arrangement to provide a substantial portion of holding forces, while distributing pressure forces across a portion of the torso of said patient in contact with said pad arrangement sufficient to minimize injuries generated by concentration of pressure forces on at least one portion of the torso of said patient in contact with said pad arrangement during a medical procedure.

57. The method according to claim 56, wherein said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction, and wherein said method further comprises using said coefficient of static friction to also provide a portion of the holding forces, such that said coefficient of static friction and depression are sufficient to together provide at least a substantial portion

of the holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad arrangement upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

58. The method according to claim 56, wherein said method further comprises preventing bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, by using a pad arrangement of sufficient thickness.

59. The method according to claim 56, wherein said patient support arrangement comprises a retaining arrangement, and said method further comprises at least assisting in the retention of said pad arrangement on a medical procedure table using said retaining arrangement.

60. A memory pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in a Trendelenburg position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the

retention of said pad arrangement on said medical table;

a memory foam comprising a coefficient of static friction being sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said memory pad on said medical procedure table upon said patient being on said medical procedure table;

a sufficient thickness and a sufficient viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient on said medical procedure table and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure on body of a patient during a medical procedure; and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the

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patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), or d);

said memory foam comprising a substantially viscoelastic polyurethane foam; and

said pad comprising a ball rebound sufficiently low to minimize unwanted movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure.

61. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 60, comprising essentially viscoelastic polyurethane foam.

62. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 61 wherein said pad comprises upper and lower surfaces that are flat or substantially flat.

63. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 60, wherein said ball rebound is less than approximately 5 percent.

64. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 63 wherein:

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said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said pad comprises upper and lower surfaces that are flat or substantially flat; and

and said retaining arrangement comprising straps.

65. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 60, wherein said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent.

66. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 60 wherein said pad comprises upper and lower surfaces that are flat or substantially flat.

67. A method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient table being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, using a patient support system comprising a pad which pad comprises a memory material, which memory material comprises a substantially viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprising a ball rebound sufficiently low to minimize unwanted movement of the body of said patient on said medical procedure table during a medical procedure, said method

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comprising the steps of:

A) positioning said pad comprising said memory material in a position on said medical procedure table where the body of said patient will be lying;

B) positioning said patient on said pad and deforming said pad, which said pad comprises:

a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on said medical table;

a sufficient thickness to sufficiently cushion the body of said patient to at least one of: minimize bottoming out and prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of the body of said patient during positioning of said patient and during a medical procedure, and minimizing injuries from pressure during a medical procedure; and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of said patient;

C) adjusting the angle of inclination of said medical procedure table to orient said patient at an angle in said inclined, Trendelenburg position, in which the head of said patient is disposed below the body of said patient, or in which the head of said patient is disposed above the body of said patient, or in which the right side of said patient is disposed above the left side or vice versa, or a combination of any of these positions; and

D) assisting in holding the body of said patient on said medical

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procedure table using said pad, wherein said pad comprises:

sufficient thinness to stabilize said patient on said medical procedure table upon said patient being in said inclined, Trendelenburg position;

sufficient thickness, sufficient compliance, and sufficient viscosity to permit formation of a slow-recovery cavity in said pad to at least one of: assist in holding said patient on said medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of said patient on said medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in said inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

forming a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), or d).

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68. The method according to claim 67 wherein said positioning comprises positioning a portion of skin of the patient against an upper surface of said pad.

69. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 68, wherein said method further comprises:

adjusting said medical procedure table and inclining the torso of said patient on said pad to at least 45 degrees from the horizontal; and

holding the torso of said patient on said pad by friction between said pad and the torso of said patient, and preventing or minimizing downward sliding of the torso of said patient on said medical procedure table, upon the torso of said patient being inclined to at least 45 degrees from the horizontal.

70. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 67, wherein said friction between said pad and the torso of said patient comprises static friction.

71. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on

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portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 67, wherein said method further comprises:

adjusting said medical procedure table and inclining the torso of said patient on said pad to at least 45 degrees from the horizontal; and

holding the torso of said patient on said pad by friction between said pad and the torso of said patient, and preventing or minimizing downward sliding of the torso of said patient on said medical procedure table, upon the torso of said patient being inclined to at least 45 degrees from the horizontal.

72. A memory pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in a Trendelenburg position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on said medical table;

a memory material;

a sufficient thickness and a sufficient viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent

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bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient on said medical procedure table and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure on body of a patient during a medical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a portion of the body of a patient which deforms said pad;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), or d);

said memory foam comprising a substantially viscoelastic polyurethane foam; and

said pad comprising a ball rebound sufficiently low to minimize unwanted movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure.

73. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 72, comprising essentially viscoelastic polyurethane foam.

74. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 73, wherein said ball rebound is less than approximately 5 percent.

75. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 73, wherein said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent.

76. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 73 wherein said pad comprises upper and lower surfaces that are flat or substantially flat.

77. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 72, wherein said ball rebound is less than approximately 5 percent.

78. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 72, wherein said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to

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approximately 5 percent.

79. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 72 wherein said pad comprises upper and lower surfaces that are flat or substantially flat.

80. A memory pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in a Trendelenburg position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on said medical table;

a sufficient thickness and a sufficient viscosity to form a slow-recovering cavity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient on said medical procedure table during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure on body of a patient during a medical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a portion of the body of a

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patient which deforms said pad;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), or d);

said memory foam comprising a substantially viscoelastic polyurethane foam; and

said pad comprising a ball rebound sufficient to minimize unwanted movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table during a medical procedure.

81. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 80, wherein said pad comprises essentially viscoelastic polyurethane foam.

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82. The memory pad patient support system according to claim 80 wherein said pad comprises upper and lower surfaces that are flat or substantially flat.

83. A single use memory pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in a Trendelenburg position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said viscoelastic pad on said medical procedure table upon said patient being on said medical procedure table;

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure; and

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sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), and d);

wherein said viscoelastic memory foam pad is configured to generate a static frictional force on the skin of a patient on said medical procedure table pad, and further said pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of said cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold the body of the patient in the inclined Trendelenburg position;

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wherein a holding quality or ability between the Trendelenburg Pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between the patient and the viscoelastic foam and the holding ability of the impression made by the patient in the viscoelastic foam, since the Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after the patient is moved from one position to another or from the operating table;

an equivalent total frictional characteristic includes the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic foam deformation;

the equivalent total frictional characteristic includes the friction due to perpendicular force onto the viscoelastic pad from the body of the patient and a component of the force of gravity on the patient parallel to the surface of the operating table.

84. The single use memory pad patient support system according to claim 83, comprising essentially viscoelastic polyurethane foam.

85. The single use memory pad patient support system according to claim 84, comprising:

at least one securing strap configured to assist in holding the pad down on a medical procedure table;

each said at least one securing strap comprises a central portion,

attached to said lower surface of said single use memory pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener; and

said single use memory pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

86. The single use memory pad patient support system according to claim 84 wherein said pad comprises upper and lower surfaces that are flat or substantially flat.

87. The single use memory pad patient support system according to claim 83, comprising substantially viscoelastic polyurethane foam.

88. The single use memory pad patient support system according to claim 87, comprising:

at least one securing strap configured to assist in holding the pad down on a medical procedure table;

each said at least one securing strap comprises a central portion, attached to said lower surface of said single use memory pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener; and

said single use memory pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

89. The single use memory pad patient support system according to

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claim 87 wherein said pad comprises upper and lower surfaces that are flat or substantially flat and said at least one securing strap comprises two straps.

90. The single use memory pad patient support system according to claim 83, comprising:

at least one securing strap configured to assist in holding the pad down on a medical procedure table;

each said at least one securing strap comprises a central portion, attached to said lower surface of said single use memory pad, and fastener ends, each comprising a hook and loop fastener; and

said single use memory pad has a thickness in the range of from three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

91. The single use memory pad patient support system according to claim 83, wherein said pad essentially comprises a ball rebound less than approximately 5 percent.

92. The single use memory pad patient support system according to claim 83, wherein said pad substantially comprises a ball rebound in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent.

93. The single use memory pad patient support system according to

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claim 83, wherein said pad comprises a ball rebound of greater than approximately 0.1 percent.

94. A method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, using a patient support system comprising a pad comprising a viscoelastic memory material, said method comprising the steps of:

A) positioning said patient support system in a position on said medical procedure table where the body of said patient will be lying;

B) positioning said patient on said memory pad and deforming said memory pad and forming a slow-recovery cavity, which said memory pad comprises:

a coefficient of static friction of at least 0.2;

sufficient thickness to sufficiently cushion the body of said patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of the body of said patient during positioning of said patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure; and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of said patient;

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C) adjusting the angle of inclination of said medical procedure table to orient said patient at an angle in said inclined, Trendelenburg position, in which the head of said patient is disposed below the body of said patient, or in which the head of said patient is disposed above the body of said patient, or in which the right side of said patient is disposed above the left side or vice versa, or a combination of these positions; and

D) assisting in holding the body of said patient on said medical procedure table using said memory pad, which said memory pad comprises:

sufficient thinness to stabilize said patient on said medical procedure table upon said patient being in said inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of said slow-recovery cavity in said memory pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding said patient on said medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of said patient on said medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position;

wherein said viscoelastic memory foam pad generates a static frictional force on the skin of a patient on said medical procedure table pad, and further said pad generates a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of said cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force

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generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold the body of the patient in the inclined Trendelenburg position;

wherein a holding quality or ability between the Trendelenburg Pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between the patient and the viscoelastic foam and the holding ability of the impression made by the patient in the viscoelastic foam, since the Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after the patient is moved from one position to another or from the operating table;

an equivalent total frictional characteristic includes the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic foam deformation;

the equivalent total frictional characteristic includes the friction due to perpendicular force onto the viscoelastic pad from the body of the patient and a component of the force of gravity on the patient parallel to the surface of the operating table.

95. The method according to claim 94 wherein Step B includes the step of positioning a portion of skin of the patient against an upper surface of said pad.

96. The method according to claim 95 wherein Step B includes the step of positioning a substantial portion of skin of the patient against an

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upper surface of said pad.

97. A method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being table in an inclined, Trendelenburg position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, using a patient support system comprising a pad which pad comprises a memory material, said method comprising the steps of:

A) positioning said pad comprising said memory material in a position on said medical procedure table where the body of said patient will be lying;

B) positioning said patient on said pad and deforming said pad, which said pad comprises:

a sufficient thickness to sufficiently cushion the body of said patient to at least one of: minimize bottoming out and prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of the body of said patient during positioning of said patient and during a medical procedure, and minimizing injuries from pressure during a medical procedure; and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of said patient;

C) adjusting the angle of inclination of said medical procedure table to orient said patient at an angle in said inclined, Trendelenburg position,

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in which the head of said patient is disposed below the body of said patient, or in which the head of said patient is disposed above the body of said patient, or in which the right side of said patient is disposed above the left side or vice versa, or a combination of any of these positions; and

D) assisting in holding the body of said patient on said medical procedure table using said pad, which said pad comprises:

sufficient thinness to stabilize said patient on said medical procedure table upon said patient being in said inclined, Trendelenburg position;

a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said pad on said medical procedure table when said patient is on said medical procedure table upon being in the Trendelenburg position;

a ball rebound in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5percent; and

sufficient thickness and sufficient compliance to permit formation of a slow-recovery cavity in said pad to at least one of: assist in holding said patient on said medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of said patient on said medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in said inclined, Trendelenburg position;

wherein said viscoelastic memory foam pad generates a static

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frictional force on the skin of a patient on said medical procedure table pad, and further said pad generates a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of said cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold the body of the patient in the inclined Trendelenburg position;

wherein a holding quality or ability between the Trendelenburg Pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between the patient and the viscoelastic foam and the holding ability of the impression made by the patient in the viscoelastic foam, since the Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after the patient is moved from one position to another or from the operating table;

an equivalent total frictional characteristic includes the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic foam deformation;

the equivalent total frictional characteristic includes the friction due to perpendicular force onto the viscoelastic pad from the body of the patient and a component of the force of gravity on the patient parallel to the surface of the operating table.

98. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to

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claim 97, wherein said step of positioning the patient comprises placing the skin of the patient in direct contact with a portion of the pad sufficient to produce an amount of friction between the skin of the patient and the pad sufficient to assist in holding the patient on the medical procedure table during a Trendelenburg procedure.

99. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 98, wherein said step of positioning said pad comprises positioning said pad such that a substantially flat upper surface is in contact with the patient and a substantially flat lower surface is in contact with the medical procedure table.

100. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 99, wherein said method further comprises:

adjusting said medical procedure table and inclining the torso of said patient on said pad to at least 30 degrees from the horizontal; and

assisting in holding the torso of said patient on said pad by friction between said pad and the torso of said patient, and at least substantially preventing or minimizing downward sliding of the torso of said patient on

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said pad, upon the torso of said patient being inclined to at least 30 degrees from the horizontal.

101. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 100, wherein said friction between said pad and the torso of said patient comprises static friction.

102. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 100, wherein said friction between said pad and the medical procedure table comprises static friction.

103. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 97, wherein said method further comprises:

adjusting said medical procedure table and inclining the torso of said patient on said pad to at least 45 degrees from the horizontal; and

holding the torso of said patient on said pad by friction between said pad and the torso of said patient, and preventing or minimizing downward

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sliding of the torso of said patient on said medical procedure table, upon the torso of said patient being inclined to at least 45 degrees from the horizontal.

104. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 97, wherein:

said pad comprises a viscoelastic polyurethane foam; and

said viscoelastic polyurethane foam is configured such that the coefficient of static friction between said viscoelastic polyurethane foam and said medical procedure table is at most approximately 1.0.

105. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 97, wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

adjusting said medical procedure table and inclining the torso of said patient on said pad to at least sixty degrees from the horizontal; and

holding said pad on said medical procedure table by friction between said pad and said medical procedure table, and preventing downward sliding of said pad on said medical procedure table, upon the torso of said patient being inclined to at least sixty degrees from the horizontal.

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106. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 97, wherein said method further comprises holding the torso of said patient on said pad by friction between said pad and the torso of said patient, and preventing or minimizing downward sliding of the torso of said patient on said pad, upon the torso of said patient being included to at least 45 degrees from the horizontal.

107. The method of minimizing injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimizing unwanted movement of said patient upon said patient being on a medical procedure table according to claim 97, including one of (A) and (B), wherein (A) and (B) are:

(A) the width of said pad being in the range of approximately twenty inches to approximately twenty-eight inches and the length of said pad being in the range of approximately thirty inches to approximately forty inches; and

(B) the width of said pad being of approximately twenty inches and the length of said pad being greater than approximately thirty inches.

108. A single use memory pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and

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minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in a Trendelenburg inclined position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a length and a width;

said length being greater than said width;

a viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said viscoelastic pad on said medical procedure table upon said patient being on said medical procedure table;

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure; and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance to permit

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formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left said of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right said of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), and d);

wherein said viscoelastic memory foam pad is configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on the skin of a patient on said medical procedure table pad;

said pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of said cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold the body of the patient substantially static on a medical procedure table in the inclined Trendelenburg position;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between the patient and the viscoelastic foam and the holding ability of the impression made by the patient in the viscoelastic foam;

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said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic foam deformation;

said Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after the patient is moved from one position to another or from an operating table; and

said equivalent total frictional characteristic being sufficient to hold a patient on a medical procedure table at an inclination of about 15 degrees.

109. The patient support system according to claim 108, wherein said viscoelastic foam comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic foam.

110. The patient support system according to claim 109, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

111. The patient support system according to claim 109, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter;

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

said patient support system comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on a medical procedure table; and

said pad arrangement has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

112. A single use memory pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in a

Trendelenburg inclined position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a length and a width;

said length being greater than said width;

a viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said viscoelastic pad on said medical procedure table upon said patient being on said medical procedure table;

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient; and

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at

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least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left said of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right said of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), and d);

wherein said viscoelastic memory foam pad is configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on the skin of a patient on said medical procedure table pad;

said pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of said cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold the body of the patient substantially static on a medical procedure table in the inclined Trendelenburg position;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between the patient and the viscoelastic foam and the holding ability of the impression made by the patient in the viscoelastic foam;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional

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characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic foam deformation;

said Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after the patient is moved from one position to another or from an operating table; and

said equivalent total frictional characteristic being sufficient to hold a patient on a medical procedure table at an inclination of about 20 degrees.

113. The patient support system according to claim 112, wherein said viscoelastic foam comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic foam.

114. The patient support system according to claim 113, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to

approximately 5 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

115. The patient support system according to claim 113, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

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a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter;

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

said patient support system comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on a medical procedure table; and

said pad arrangement has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

116. A single use memory pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in a Trendelenburg inclined position on a medical procedure table, a surgical

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operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a length and a width;

said length being greater than said width;

a viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said viscoelastic pad on said medical procedure table upon said patient being on said medical procedure table;

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure; and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and

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assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left said of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right said of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), and d);

wherein said viscoelastic memory foam pad is configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on the skin of a patient on said medical procedure table pad;

said pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of said cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold the body of the patient substantially static on a medical procedure table in the inclined Trendelenburg position;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between the patient and the viscoelastic foam and the holding ability of the impression made by the patient in the viscoelastic foam;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the

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friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic foam deformation;

said Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after the patient is moved from one position to another or from an operating table; and

said equivalent total frictional characteristic being sufficient to hold a patient on a medical procedure table at an inclination of about 25 degrees.

117. The patient support system according to claim 116, wherein said viscoelastic foam comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic foam.

118. The patient support system according to claim 117, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

119. The patient support system according to claim 117, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2

to approximately 1.0;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter;

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

said patient support system comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on a medical procedure table; and

said pad arrangement has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

120. A single use memory pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in a Trendelenburg inclined position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

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said single use memory pad patient support system comprising a pad; said pad comprising:

a length and a width;

said length being greater than said width;

a viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said viscoelastic pad on said medical procedure table upon said patient being on said medical procedure table;

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient; and

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on

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a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left said of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right said of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), and d);

wherein said viscoelastic memory foam pad is configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on the skin of a patient on said medical procedure table pad;

said pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of said cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold the body of the patient substantially static on a medical procedure table in the inclined Trendelenburg position;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between the patient and the viscoelastic foam and the holding ability of the impression made by the patient in the viscoelastic foam;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic foam deformation;

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said Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after the patient is moved from one position to another or from an operating table; and

said equivalent total frictional characteristic being sufficient to hold a patient on a medical procedure table at an inclination of about 30 degrees.

121. The patient support system according to claim 120, wherein said viscoelastic foam comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic foam.

122. The patient support system according to claim 121, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0

cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

123. The patient support system according to claim 121, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter;

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

said patient support system comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on a medical procedure table; and

said pad arrangement has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

124. A single use memory pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in a Trendelenburg inclined position on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

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said pad comprising:

a length and a width;

said length being greater than said width;

a viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said viscoelastic pad on said medical procedure table upon said patient being on said medical procedure table;

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on said medical procedure table, of one or more of the portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure during a medical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of the body of a patient; and

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon a patient being in an inclined, Trendelenburg position; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of the body of a patient on a medical procedure table, during a medical procedure performed

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while said patient is in an inclined Trendelenburg position, such that: a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left said of the patient, or d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right said of the patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), and d);

wherein said viscoelastic memory foam pad is configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on the skin of a patient on said medical procedure table pad;

said pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of said cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold the body of the patient substantially static on a medical procedure table in the inclined Trendelenburg position;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between the patient and the viscoelastic foam and the holding ability of the impression made by the patient in the viscoelastic foam;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic foam deformation;

said Trendelenburg pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an

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impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after the patient is moved from one position to another or from an operating table; and

said equivalent total frictional characteristic being sufficient to hold a patient on a medical procedure table at an inclination of about 40 degrees.

125. The patient support system according to claim 124, wherein said viscoelastic foam comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table;

an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic foam.

126. The patient support system according to claim 125, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

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said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

127. The patient support system according to claim 125, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less

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than approximately 0.3 percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter;

said pad arrangement is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

said patient support system comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad arrangement on a medical procedure table; and

said pad arrangement has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

128. A surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad comprising a viscoelastic memory foam which has a coefficient of friction between said viscoelastic memory foam and a surface of a surgical procedure table configured to hold said pad on a surgical procedure table, which surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad comprises viscoelastic memory foam which is deformable so as to conform to a body of a patient, and which thereby assists in holding a patient in an inclined,

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Trendelenburg, position on an inclined surgical procedure table, and prevents or minimizes bottoming out on a surgical procedure table of a portion of a body of a patient to reduce injury caused by pressure to a patient during a surgical procedure, where an inclined, Trendelenburg, position includes an orientation in which a head of a patient is disposed either a) below or b) above a body of a patient or c) a right side of a patient is disposed higher than a left side of a patient, or d) a left side of a patient is disposed higher than a right side of a patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), and d);

said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad further comprising:

a flat top surface and a flat bottom surface;

a single layer of viscoelastic memory foam;

said viscoelastic memory foam is uncovered on its top and bottom;

said single layer of said viscoelastic memory foam extends all the way through said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad from a patient's skin to a surface of a surgical procedure table between the flat top surface and the flat bottom surface of said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad;

said viscoelastic memory foam comprising a coefficient of static friction in the range of 0.2 to 1.0 and said coefficient of static friction being at a value in said range sufficient to assist in minimizing

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movement of said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad on a surgical procedure table upon a patient being on a surgical procedure table;

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on a surgical procedure table, of one or more of portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure on a patient during a surgical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of a body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a surgical procedure table; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance being configured to permit formation of a cavity in said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a surgical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of a body of a patient on a surgical procedure table, during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in an surgical position;

said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad being configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on skin of a patient on said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad to stabilize

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a patient on said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad;

said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to formation of a cavity in said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold a body of a patient substantially static on a surgical procedure table;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between a patient and said viscoelastic memory foam and the holding ability of the impression made by a patient in said viscoelastic memory foam;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic memory foam deformation;

said viscoelastic memory foam pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after a patient is moved from one position to another or from a surgical procedure table;

said open cell foam also provides an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and wherein said air flow of said open cell foam is in the range of one of i) and ii), wherein i) and ii) are:

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i) 0.1 to 3.0 cubic foot per minute; and

ii) 0.3 to 1.0 cubic foot per minute.

129. A single use pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a surgical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a viscoelastic, polyurethane open cell foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being at a value in said range sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said pad on a surgical procedure table upon a patient being on a surgical procedure table;

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on a surgical procedure table, of one or more of portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure on a patient during a surgical procedure; and

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of a body of a patient;

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sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a surgical procedure table; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance being configured to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a surgical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of a body of a patient on a surgical procedure table, during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in a surgical position;

said pad being configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on skin of a patient on said pad to stabilize a patient on said pad;

said pad being configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to formation of a cavity in said pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold a body of a patient substantially static on a surgical procedure table;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between a patient and said pad and the holding ability of the impression made by a patient in said pad;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the pad deformation;

said pad further comprising a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after a patient is moved from one position to another or from an operating table;

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and said viscoelastic foam also provides an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow at the skin of a patient in contact with said viscoelastic foam; and

wherein said air flow of said open cell foam is in the range of one of i) and ii), wherein i) and ii) are:

i) 0.1 to 3.0 cubic foot per minute; and

ii) 0.3 to 1.0 cubic foot per minute.

130. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 129, wherein said single use pad patient support system comprises a single layer of viscoelastic foam configured to make direct contact with a surgical procedure table and direct contact with at least a portion of a patient's skin.

131. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 130, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 25 degrees.

132. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 129, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 15 degrees.

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133. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 132, wherein said pad comprises a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said pad.

134. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 133, wherein said viscoelastic foam comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table.

135. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 134, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than

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approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

136. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 135, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter;

said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by a buttocks and scapular region of a torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

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said single use pad patient support system comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said single use pad patient support system on a surgical procedure table; and

said pad has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

137. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 129, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 20 degrees.

138. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 129, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 30 degrees.

139. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 129, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 35 degrees.

140. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 129, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to

hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 40 degrees.

141. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 129, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 45 degrees.

142. A patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in surgical position on a surgical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a viscoelastic, polyurethane open cell foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said pad on a surgical procedure table upon a patient being on a surgical procedure table;

sufficient thickness to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on a surgical procedure table, of one or more of portions of a body of a patient

during positioning of a patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure on a patient during a surgical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of a body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a surgical procedure table; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance being configured to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of:

assist in holding a patient on a surgical procedure table, and

assist in minimizing undesired movement of a body of a patient on a surgical procedure table, during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in a surgical position;

wherein said pad is configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on skin of a patient on a surgical procedure table pad to stabilize a patient on a surgical procedure table pad;

said pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of a cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold a body of a patient substantially static on a surgical procedure table;

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wherein a holding quality or ability between said pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between a patient and said pad and the holding ability of the impression made by a patient in said pad;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the pad deformation; and

said viscoelastic foam pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after a patient is moved from one position to another or from a surgical table;

in which said viscoelastic, polyurethane open cell foam also provides an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow at at least a portion of a contact area of a patient; and

wherein said air flow of said viscoelastic foam is in the range of one of i) and ii), wherein i) and ii) are:

i) 0.1 to 3.0 cubic foot per minute; and

ii) 0.3 to 1.0 cubic foot per minute.

143. The patient support system according to claim 142, wherein said viscoelastic foam comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient

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on a medical procedure table; and

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic foam.

144. The patient support system according to claim 143, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

145. The patient support system according to claim 144, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per

square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter;

said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by a buttocks and scapular region of a torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

said patient support system comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said patient support system on a surgical procedure table; and

said pad has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

146. A patient support arrangement comprising: a pad comprising viscoelastic polyurethane foam;

said pad comprising:

a first side configured to contact with a patient's skin;

a second side configured to contact with a tiltable medical procedure

table; and

a thickness of about 0.75 inches to about 3.00 inches;

wherein the viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprises: a rate of recovery of about 10 seconds to about 35 seconds for about 100 percent recovery after deformation caused by placing a torso of a patient on the pad.

147. The patient support arrangement according to claim 146, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle and thus the torso of a patient being tilted at an angle with respect to the horizontal.

148. The patient support arrangement according to claim 147, wherein said viscoelastic polyurethane foam has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

149. The patient support arrangement according to claim 148, wherein said pad is sufficiently thin to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

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150. The patient support arrangement according to claim 149, said pad is sufficiently thick to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure.

151. The patient support arrangement according to claim 150, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad, and said viscoelastic polyurethane foam has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad, which coefficient of static friction and depression depth are sufficient to together provide at least a substantial portion of the holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

152. The patient support arrangement according to claim 151, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression.

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153. The patient support arrangement according to claim 152, wherein: said patient support arrangement comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad on a medical procedure table; and said pad has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

154. The patient support arrangement according to claim 146, wherein said viscoelastic polyurethane foam has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

155. The patient support arrangement according to claim 154, wherein said pad is sufficiently thin to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

156. The patient support arrangement according to claim 155, said pad is sufficiently thick to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure.

157. The patient support arrangement according to claim 156,

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wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression.

158. A patient support arrangement comprising:

a pad configured to be placed on a tiltable medical procedure table;

said pad having a length sufficient to extend from about at least the thighs of a patient to about at least the shoulders of a patient to support the torso of a patient placed on said pad;

said pad comprising deformable viscoelastic polyurethane foam material;

said pad comprising a first side configured to contact with a patient's skin and a second side configured to contact with a tiltable medical procedure table;

said deformable material comprising of a thickness of about 0.75 inches to about 3.00 inches and being configured to be deformable by the torso of a patient to form a depression in said pad, which depression provides a substantial portion of the holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle and thus the torso of a patient being tilted at

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an angle with respect to the horizontal, such that:

a) the head of the patient is disposed lower than the torso of the patient, or

b) the head of the patient is disposed higher than the torso of the patient, or

c) the right side of the patient is disposed higher than the left side of the patient, or

d) the left side of the patient is disposed higher than the right side of the patient, or

e) a combination of any of a), b), c), and d);

said deformable material has a rate of recovery sufficiently slow to maintain a depression in said pad for a desired period of time upon a change in a depression-generating force on said pad; and

said pad is configured to distribute pressure forces across a substantial portion of the torso of a patient in contact with said pad to minimize injuries generated by concentration of pressure forces on at least one portion of the torso of the patient in contact with said pad during a medical procedure and

wherein the viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprises: a rate of recovery of about 10 seconds to about 35 seconds for about 100 percent recovery after deformation caused by placing a torso of a patient on the pad.

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159. The patient support arrangement according to claim 158, wherein said deformable material comprises: a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure; an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table; an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said deformable material.

160. The patient support arrangement according to claim 159, wherein: said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent; said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute; said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds; said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and said deformable material further comprises: a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2; a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

161. The patient support arrangement according to claim 159, wherein at least one of a)-g):

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a) said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

b) said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

c) said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

d) said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch;

e) said deformable material comprises a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2;

f) said deformable material comprises a compression set, for a percent compression, which is less than approximately one percent; and

g) said deformable material comprises a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

162. The patient support arrangement according to claim 158, wherein:

said patient support arrangement comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said pad on a medical procedure table; and

said pad has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

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163. The patient support arrangement according to claim 162, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch;

and said deformable material further comprises:

a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

164. The patient support arrangement according to claim 162, wherein at least one of h)-n):

h) said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

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i) said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

j) said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

k) said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch;

l) said deformable material comprises a coefficient of static friction in the range of approximately 0.2 to approximately 1.0;

m) said deformable material comprises a compression set, for a percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

n) said deformable material comprises a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter.

165. The patient support arrangement according to claim 164, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad, and said deformable material has a coefficient of static friction sufficient to assist in holding a patient on said pad, which coefficient of static friction and depression depth are sufficient to together provide at least a substantial portion of the holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

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166. The patient support arrangement according to claim 165, wherein said pad is sufficiently thin to stabilize a patient on a medical procedure table upon the medical procedure table being tilted at an angle.

167. The patient support arrangement according to claim 166, said pad is sufficiently thick to minimize and/or prevent bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure.

168. The patient support arrangement according to claim 167, wherein said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by the buttocks and scapular region of the torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression.

169. A method of positioning a patient on a medical procedure table comprising:

providing a pad manufactured from a viscoelastic polyurethane foam and comprising:

a first side configured to be in contact with a patient's skin; and

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a second side configured to be in contact with a tiltable medical procedure table, and a thickness of about 0.75 inches to about 3.00 inches, wherein the viscoelastic polyurethane foam comprises: a rate of recovery of about 10 seconds to about 35 seconds for about 100 percent recovery after deformation caused by placing a torso of a patient on the pad;

positioning the pad on the medical procedure table such that the second side is on contact with an upper surface of the medical procedure table;

positioning at least a torso of the patient on the pad such that the patient's skin is in contact with the first side of the pad;

tilting the medical procedure table at an angle, and thus positioning the torso of said patient at an angle with respect to the horizontal; and

holding the patient generally in a desired position on the pad on the medical procedure table during a medical procedure.

170. The method according to claim 169, wherein said viscoelastic polyurethane foam has a coefficient of static friction, and wherein said method further comprises using said coefficient of static friction to also provide a portion of the holding forces, such that said coefficient of static friction and depression are sufficient to together provide at least a substantial portion of the holding forces which hold a patient generally in a desired position on said pad upon a medical procedure table being tilted at

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an angle.

171. The method according to claim 170, wherein said method further comprises preventing bottoming out on a medical procedure table of one or more of the portions of the body of a patient both during positioning of a patient and during a medical procedure, by using a pad of sufficient thickness.

172. The method according to claim 170, wherein said patient support arrangement comprises a retaining arrangement, and said method further comprises at least assisting in the retention of said pad on a medical procedure table using said retaining arrangement.

173. A surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad comprising a viscoelastic memory foam which has a coefficient of friction between said viscoelastic memory foam and a surface of a surgical procedure table configured to hold said pad on a surgical procedure table, which surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad comprises viscoelastic memory foam which is deformable so as to conform to a body of a patient, and which thereby assists in holding a patient in an inclined, Trendelenburg, position on an inclined surgical procedure table, and prevents or minimizes bottoming out on a surgical procedure table of a portion of a body of a patient to reduce injury caused by pressure to a

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patient during a surgical procedure, where an inclined, Trendelenburg, position includes an orientation in which a head of a patient is disposed either a) below or b) above a body of a patient or c) a right side of a patient is disposed higher than a left side of a patient, or d) a left side of a patient is disposed higher than a right side of a patient, or e) a combination of a), b), c), and d);

said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad further comprising:

a flat top surface and a flat bottom surface;

a single layer of viscoelastic memory foam;

said viscoelastic memory foam is uncovered on its top and bottom;

said single layer of said viscoelastic memory foam extends all the way through said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad from a patient's skin to a surface of a surgical procedure table between the flat top surface and the flat bottom surface of said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad;

said viscoelastic memory foam comprising a coefficient of static friction in the range of 0.2 to 1.0 and said coefficient of static friction being at a value in said range sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad on a surgical procedure table upon a patient being on a surgical procedure table;

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sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on a surgical procedure table, of one or more of portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure on a patient during a surgical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of a body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a surgical procedure table; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance being configured to permit formation of a cavity in said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a surgical procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of a body of a patient on a surgical procedure table, during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in an surgical position;

said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad being configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on skin of a patient on said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad to stabilize a patient on said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad;

said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to formation of a

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cavity in said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold a body of a patient substantially static on a surgical procedure table;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said surgical patient single use, open cell foam support pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between a patient and said viscoelastic memory foam and the holding ability of the impression made by a patient in said viscoelastic memory foam;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the viscoelastic memory foam deformation;

said viscoelastic memory foam pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after a patient is moved from one position to another or from a surgical procedure table;

said open cell foam also provides an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient and prevent or minimize pressure injury to a patient.

174. A single use pad patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize

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unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a surgical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory pad patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a viscoelastic, polyurethane open cell foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being at a value in said range sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said pad on a surgical procedure table upon a patient being on a surgical procedure table;

sufficient thickness and viscosity to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on a surgical procedure table, of one or more of portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure on a patient during a surgical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of a body of a patient;

sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a surgical procedure table; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance being configured to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of: assist in holding a patient on a surgical

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procedure table, and assist in minimizing undesired movement of a body of a patient on a surgical procedure table, during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in a surgical position;

said pad being configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on skin of a patient on said pad to stabilize a patient on said pad;

said pad being configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to formation of a cavity in said pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold a body of a patient substantially static on a surgical procedure table;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between a patient and said pad and the holding ability of the impression made by a patient in said pad;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the friction or friction-like force due to the pad deformation;

said pad further comprising a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after a patient is moved from one position to another or from an operating table;

and said viscoelastic foam also provides an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow at the skin of a patient in contact with said viscoelastic foam and prevent or minimize pressure injury to a patient.

175. The single use pad patient support system according to claim

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174, wherein said single use pad patient support system comprises a single layer of viscoelastic foam configured to make direct contact with a surgical procedure table and direct contact with at least a portion of a patient's skin.

176. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 174, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 15 degrees.

177. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 174, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 20 degrees.

178. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 175, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 25 degrees.

179. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 174, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least

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about 30 degrees.

180. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 174, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 35 degrees.

181. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 174, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 40 degrees.

182. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 174, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic is sufficient to hold a patient on a surgical procedure table at an inclination of at least about 45 degrees.

183. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 176, wherein said pad comprises a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said pad.

184. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 183, wherein said viscoelastic foam comprises:

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a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table.

185. The single use pad patient support system according to claim 184, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

186. The single use pad patient support system according to claim

185, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter;

said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by a buttocks and scapular region of a torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

said single use pad patient support system comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said single use pad patient support system on a surgical procedure table; and

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said pad has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

187. A patient support system configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being in surgical position on a surgical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said patient support system comprising a pad;

said pad comprising:

a viscoelastic, polyurethane open cell foam comprising a coefficient of static friction of at least approximately 0.2 and said coefficient of static friction being sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of said pad on a surgical procedure table upon a patient being on a surgical procedure table;

sufficient thickness to sufficiently cushion a body of a patient to: minimize bottoming out or prevent bottoming out, on a surgical procedure table, of one or more of portions of a body of a patient during positioning of a patient and during a surgical procedure, and to minimize injuries from pressure on a patient during a surgical procedure;

sufficient compliance to conform to a substantial portion of a body of a patient;

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sufficient thinness to stabilize a patient on a surgical procedure table; and

said sufficient thickness and said sufficient compliance being configured to permit formation of a cavity in said pad of a depth sufficient to at least one of:

assist in holding a patient on a surgical procedure table, and

assist in minimizing undesired movement of a body of a patient on a surgical procedure table, during a surgical procedure performed while a patient is in a surgical position;

wherein said pad is configured to generate a sufficient static frictional force on skin of a patient on a surgical procedure table pad to stabilize a patient on a surgical procedure table pad;

said pad is configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to the formation of a cavity in said viscoelastic foam pad, and which force generated by said coefficient of static friction both together being sufficient to hold a body of a patient substantially static on a surgical procedure table;

wherein a holding quality or ability between said pad and a patient is a combination of the coefficient of friction between a patient and said pad and the holding ability of the impression made by a patient in said pad;

said holding quality or ability comprising an equivalent total frictional characteristic including the friction due to the coefficient of friction and the

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friction or friction-like force due to the pad deformation; and

said viscoelastic foam pad comprises a viscoelastic foam in which an impression is formed and held in the foam at least for a time after a patient is moved from one position to another or from a surgical table;

in which said viscoelastic, polyurethane open cell foam also provides an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow at at least a portion of a contact area of a patient; and prevent or minimize pressure injury to a patient.

188. The patient support system according to claim 187, wherein said viscoelastic foam comprises:

a rebound or ball rebound being sufficiently small to minimize undesirable movement of a patient during a medical procedure;

an indentation force deflection sufficient to permit formation of a depression having a depth sufficient to at least assist in holding a patient on a medical procedure table; and

a tensile strength sufficient to minimize tearing of said viscoelastic foam.

189. The patient support system according to claim 188, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.1 to approximately 3.0

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cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 7 to approximately 18 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, of less than approximately one percent; and

a density in the range of approximately 75 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 110 kilograms per cubic meter.

190. The patient support system according to claim 189, wherein:

said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 1.9 percent;

said air flow is in the range of approximately 0.3 to approximately 1.0 cubic foot per minute;

said indentation force deflection is in the range of approximately 10 to approximately 15 pounds;

said tensile strength is in the range of approximately 8 pounds per square inch to approximately 12 pounds per square inch; and

said viscoelastic foam further comprises:

a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, which is less than approximately 0.3 percent; and

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a density in the range of approximately 83 kilograms per cubic meter to approximately 103 kilograms per cubic meter;

said pad is sufficiently thick to permit formation of a depression having portions of different depths, such that the depths of the portions of the depression formed by a buttocks and scapular region of a torso of a patient are greater than the depths of other portions of the depression, and such that the deeper portions of the depression provide a greater portion of the holding forces than shallower portions of the depression;

said patient support system comprises a retaining arrangement configured to at least assist in the retention of said patient support system on a surgical procedure table; and

said pad has a thickness in the range of from approximately three-fourths of an inch to three inches or greater.

191. A method of positioning a patient on a medical procedure table configured to support a body of a patient, said method comprising:

positioning an open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement, comprising a length sufficient to extend under at least a substantial portion of the torso of said patient, on a medical procedure table;

positioning at least the torso of said patient on said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement;

forming a depression in said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement, which open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement has a rate of recovery

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sufficiently slow to maintain the depression in said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement for a desired period of time upon a change in a depression-generating force on said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement;

holding a patient generally in a desired position on said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement on said medical procedure table, using said depression in said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement to provide holding forces, while distributing pressure forces across a portion of the torso of said patient supported by said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement sufficiently to minimize injuries generated by concentration of pressure forces on at least one portion of the torso of said patient supported by said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement during a medical procedure;

said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement providing an air flow sufficient to provide substantial air flow about a patient; and

preventing or minimizing injury to at least a portion of said patient making skin contact with a viscoelastic foam of said open cell viscoelastic pad arrangement.

192. A single use Trendelenburg viscoelastic foam pad:

configured to minimize injuries on portions of a body of a patient on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, said pad comprising a single use pad configured to

minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use viscoelastic foam pad comprising a rate of recovery of said pad in the range of approximately 2 seconds to approximately 35 seconds.

193. A single use Trendelenburg viscoelastic foam pad configured to minimize injuries on portions of a body of a patient on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, said pad comprising a single use pad configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use viscoelastic foam pad comprising an elongation, in a twenty inches per minute test, of the viscoelastic foam in a range of between approximately 125 percent and approximately 250 percent, plus 25 percent or minus 25 percent.

194. A single use Trendelenburg viscoelastic foam pad configured to minimize injuries on portions of a body of a patient on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, said pad

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comprising a single use pad configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use viscoelastic foam pad comprising a tensile strength, at 25 percent deflection, of the viscoelastic foam in the range of at least approximately 5 pounds per square inch to approximately 15 pounds per square inch.

195. A single use Trendelenburg viscoelastic foam pad configured to minimize injuries on portions of a body of a patient on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, said pad comprising a single use pad configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use viscoelastic foam pad comprising a compression set, for a 25% compression, being less than approximately 0.5 percent.

196. A single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad configured to minimize injuries on portions of a body of a patient on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, said pad comprising a single use pad configured to minimize injuries caused by

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pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory foam pad comprising a viscoelastic, open cell foam comprising a coefficient of static friction being at a value in a range sufficient to assist in minimizing movement of a patient on a medical procedure table;

said pad being configured to generate a friction or friction-like force due to formation of a cavity in said pad, and the force generated by static frictional force on skin of a patient, said combination comprises an equivalent coefficient of static friction, which creates a combined force being sufficient to hold a body of a patient substantially static on an inclined, Trendelenburg medical procedure table during a surgical procedure; and

said equivalent coefficient of friction being in excess of approximately one.

197. A single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad configured to minimize injuries on portions of a body of a patient on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, said pad comprising a single use pad configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a medical

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procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory foam pad comprising a compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than 0.5 percent.

198. The single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad of claim 197, wherein said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than approximately 0.3 percent.

199. The single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad of claim 197, wherein said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than approximately one percent.

200. The single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad of claim 197, wherein said compression set, for a 25 percent compression, is less than 0.5 percent.

201. A single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad configured to minimize injuries on portions of a body of a patient on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, said pad comprising a single use pad configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table;

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said single use memory foam pad comprising:

a viscoelastic single use polyurethane foam pad configured to be placed on top of a medical table to comfortably support a patient thereon during a Trendelenburg medical procedure;

securing straps to removably secure said pad to the top of the medical table; and

a ball rebound is in the range of greater than approximately 0.1 percent.

202. The single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad of claim 201 wherein said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to 1.9 percent.

203. The single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad of claim 201 wherein said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 3 percent.

204. The single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad of claim 201 wherein said ball rebound is in the range of approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 5 percent.

205. A single use Trendelenburg memory foam pad configured to minimize injuries on portions of a body of a patient on a medical procedure

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table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table, said pad comprising a single use pad configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient and minimize unwanted movement of a patient upon a patient being positioned on a medical procedure table, a surgical operating table or a patient examination table,

said single use memory foam pad comprising a viscoelastic, open cell foam surface comprising an air flow in the range of about 0.3 to about 1.0 cubic feet per minute.

206. A removable patient support pad arrangement configured to comfortably support and maintain a patient in a surgeon's desired position on an operating table during an operation procedure by the surgeon, and configured to minimize injuries caused by pressure on portions of a body of a patient on the operating table, said removable patient support pad arrangement comprising:

a formable, viscoelastic polyurethane foam pad;

said pad having a thickness to cushion and comfortably support the patient lying thereon during the operation procedure;

said pad being formable to the patient lying thereon to assist in holding the patient in the surgeon's desired position during the operation procedure; and

said pad having an equivalent total frictional characteristic equal to or in excess of one with respect to the patient to prevent slippage of the

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patient on said pad and thereby assist in holding the patient in the surgeon's desired position during the operation procedure.

207. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein said equivalent total frictional characteristic with respect to the patient is produced by the foam surface of said pad to hold the patient in the surgeon's desired position during the operation procedure.

208. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein said pad has a viscoelastic foam outer surface.

209. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein said pad is essentially a viscoelastic foam.

210. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein said removable patient support pad arrangement further comprises securing straps to removably secure said pad to the top of an operating table.

211. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 210, wherein said securing straps are the sole securing straps connected to said pad.

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212. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 211, wherein each of said securing straps comprises a central portion attached to the bottom side of said pad.

213. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 212, wherein said pad comprises hook and loop fastener ends on said securing straps.

214. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 213, wherein said securing straps extend latitudinally from said pad in order to connect to side bars of the operating table.

215. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein said pad comprises a Trendelenburg pad to maintain the patient in the surgeon's required position, which position comprises a Trendelenburg position.

216. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 215, wherein said pad is usable as a Trendelenburg pad due to said equivalent total frictional characteristic of said pad.

217. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein said foam pad comprises an open cell foam pad.

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218. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 217, wherein said viscoelastic open cell foam pad has an air flow to provide air flow about a patient.

219. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein said thickness comprises about 1 inch.

220. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein said pad has an essentially rectangular shape.

221. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein there is a holding force on the patient due to the coefficient of friction between the patient and the pad and a force due to the formability of the pad to the patient which calculated together form said equivalent total frictional coefficient characteristic.

222. The removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206, wherein there is a coefficient of friction between said pad and the surface of the operating table is at least approximately 0.2.

223. A method of using the removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 206 to support and cushion a patient lying

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thereon and minimize unwanted movement or slippage of a patient on an operating table, said method comprising:

positioning said pad on top of the operating table;

positioning the patient on said pad in a surgeon's desired position and comfortably supporting the patient with said pad; and

minimizing or preventing slippage of the patient on said pad and assisting in holding the patient in the surgeon's desired position using said equivalent total frictional characteristic.

224. The method of using the removable patient support pad arrangement according to Claim 223, wherein said patient support pad arrangement further comprises securing straps to removably secure said pad to the top of an operating table, and said method comprises removably securing said pad to the operating table by connecting said securing straps to the operating table.

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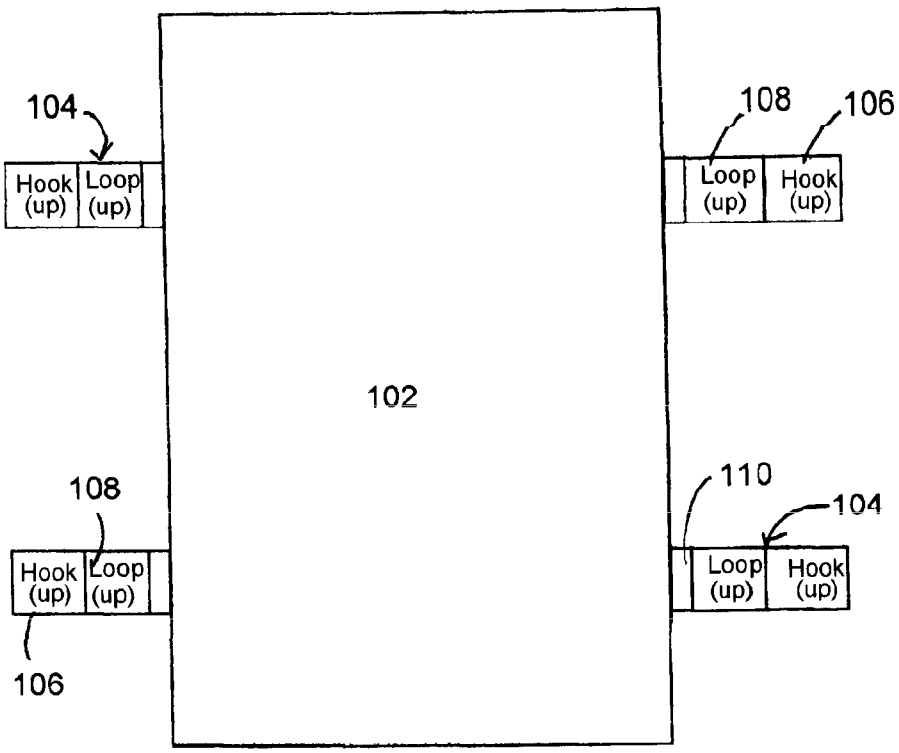

104
Hook (up)
Loop (up)
108
106
Loop (up)
Hook (up)
102
108
Hook (up)
Loop (up)
106
110
104
Loop (up)
Hook (up)

FIG. 1

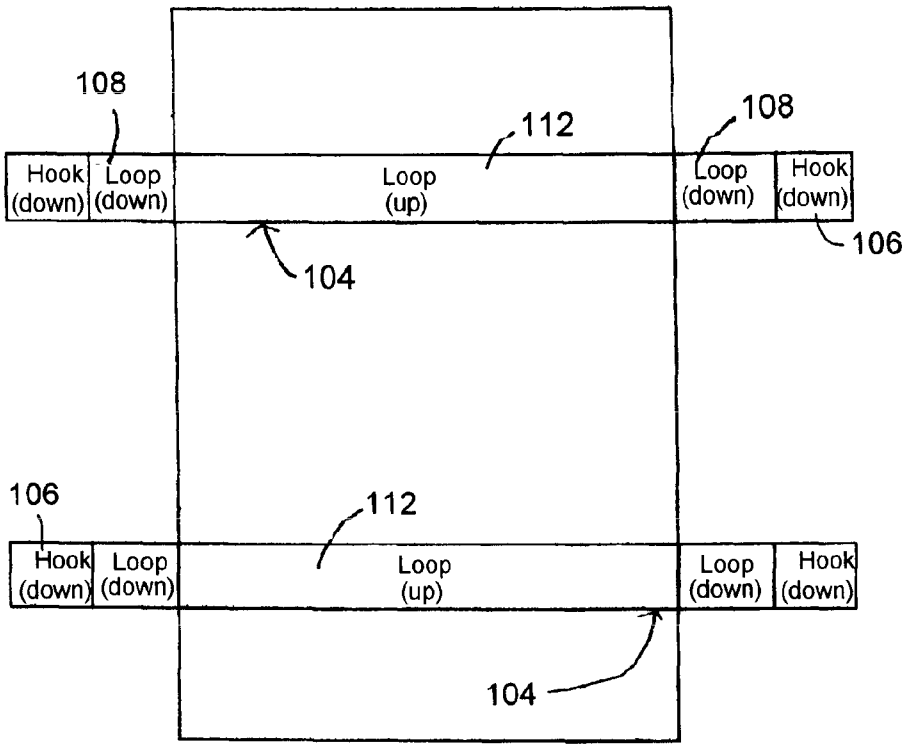

108
112
108
Hook (down)
Loop (down)
Loop (up)
Loop (down)
Hook (down)
106
104
106
112
Hook (down)
Loop (down)
Loop (up)
Loop (down)
Hook (down)
104

FIG. 2

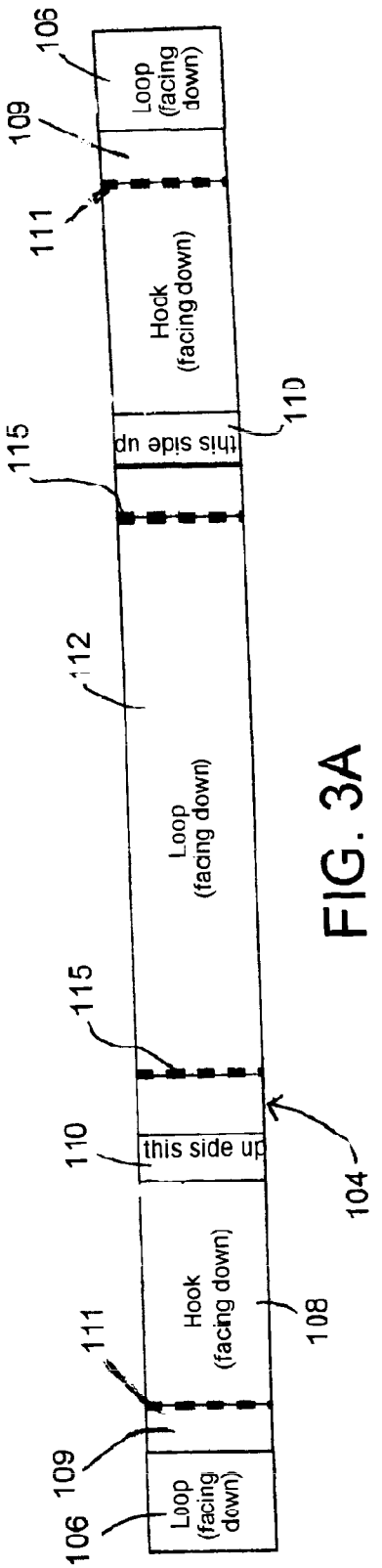
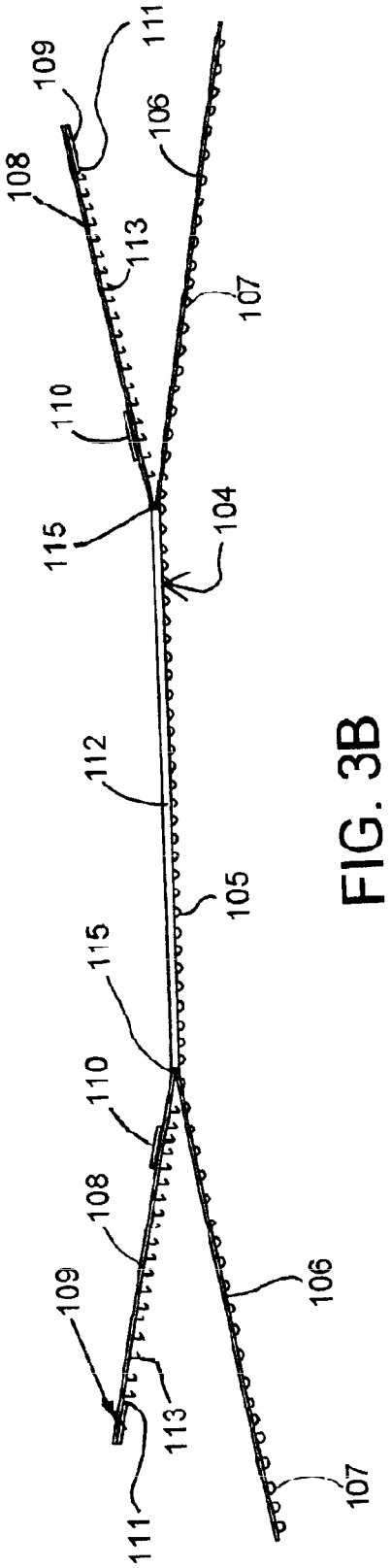

Loop (facing down)
Hook (facing down)
this side up
Loop (facing down)
Hook (facing down)
Loop (facing down)
106
109
111
115
112
110
104
108

FIG. 3A


111
109
106
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113
107
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104
112
105
115
110
108
106
109
113
111
107

FIG. 3B

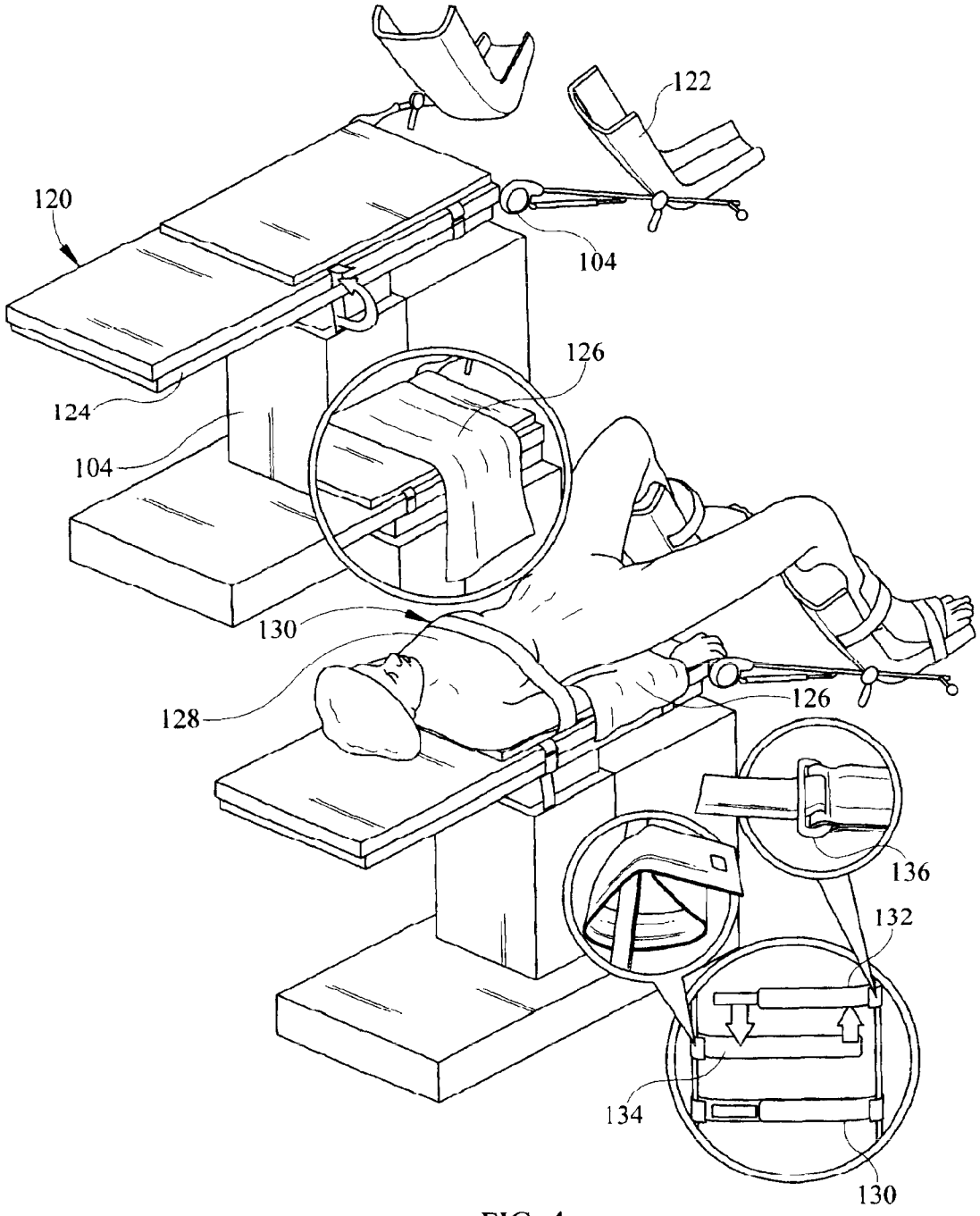


FIG. 4

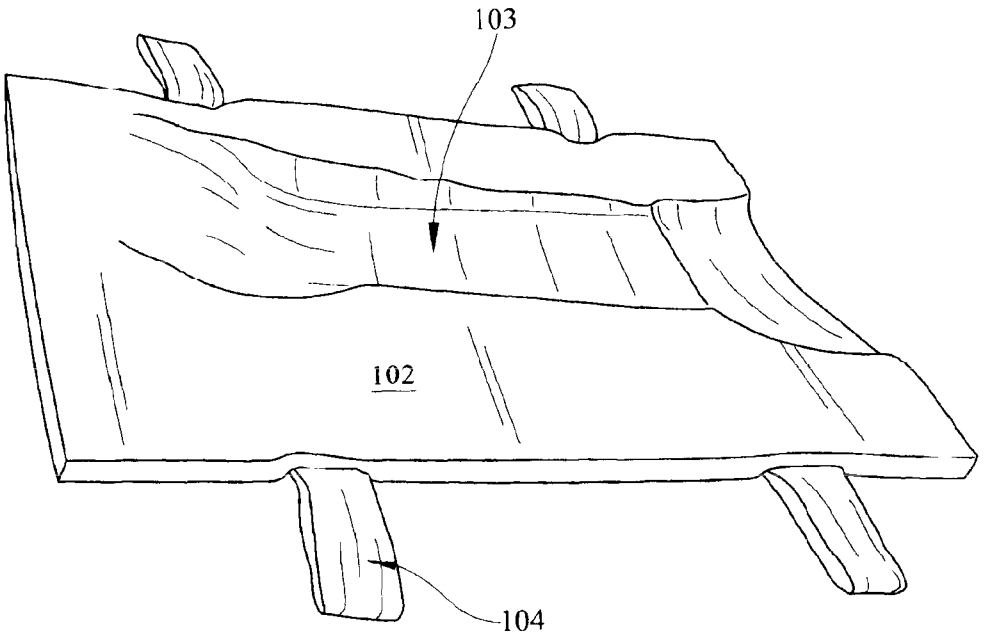


FIG. 5

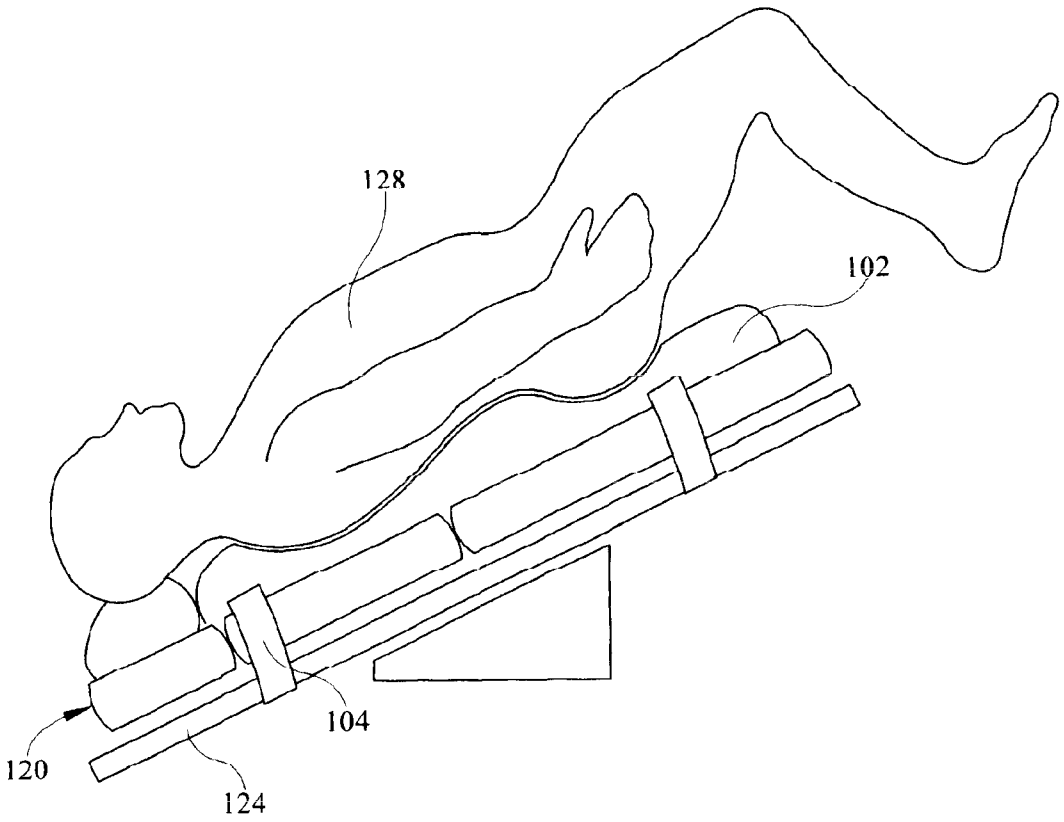


FIG. 6

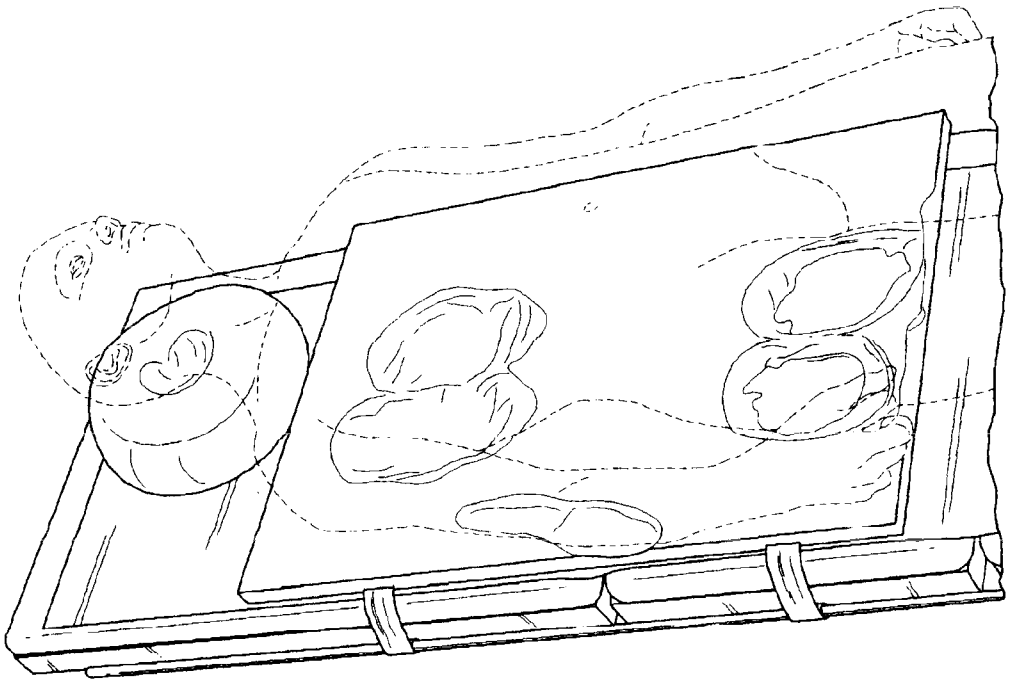
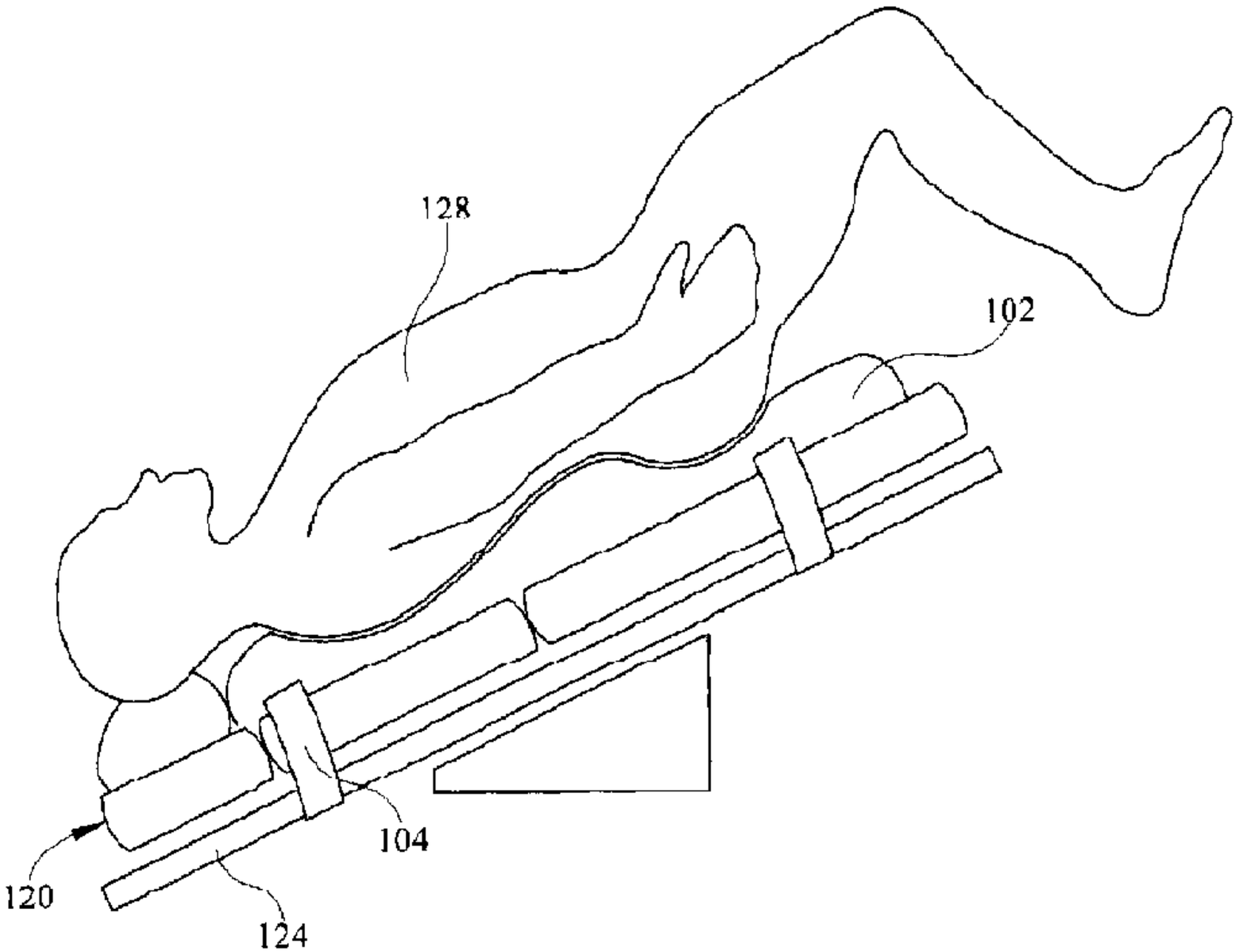


FIG. 7


128
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120
124