

OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY®

**PRODUCT
REVIEWS**

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Product: The Pink Pad®
Company: Xodus Medical, Inc.

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Design/Functionality Scale

- 5 = Excellent design; Flaws not apparent
- 4 = Excellent design; Few flaws
- 3 = Good design; Few flaws
- 2 = Solid design; Many deficits
- 1 = Poor design; Many deficits



Background

Not infrequently, technologic advances in one realm create new challenges in another. Such is the case with pelvic laparoscopy. With the minimization of incisions, steep Trendelenburg positioning has been utilized to replace packing and retractors in keeping the bowel out of the surgical field. Unfortunately, this position coupled with gravity can cause patient slippage on the operating room (OR) table and undue pressure on the shoulders and upper extremities, leading to injuries. Although the risks of these injuries have traditionally been considered low (~0.16%),¹ the studies on which these perceptions were founded are older and typically based on less advanced surgical procedures than are being performed today. With the added complexity of cases and the introduction of robotic technology, there is a suggestion that injury rates are higher than previously thought, with one recent paper reporting a 6.6% incidence of positioning injuries.²

To address this emerging problem, OR teams have employed a variety of clever solutions using odd combinations of pads, egg-crates, bean bags, straps, hook and loops fasteners, and tape, with each team swearing lifelong fidelity to its home-grown technique... until they find something better. Xodus Medical (New Kensington, PA) thinks they have found something better and now present us with the Pigazzi Patient Positioning System, also known as The Pink Pad®.

*I think The Pink Pad is
an excellent solution...*

Design/Functionality: 5/ 5

The Pink Pad® is a single-use device that is ingeniously simple, with three basic components: a pad (that is ...pink), a lift sheet, and a body strap. The pad is composed of a latex-free, breathable, open-cell, viscoelastic, shape-conforming foam that is secured to the OR table by hook and loops straps at each of the four corners. The foam has a high coefficient of friction and molds and conforms to the patient's body to minimize slippage. The lift sheet is designed to be positioned between the patient's scapulae and sacrum and serves a dual role:

(1) as a lift sheet to move the patient up and down the table while he or she lies on the pad, and (2) as a means of tucking the patient's arms. Finally, there is a body strap that is designed to be positioned across the patient's chest in cases in which lateral tilt is employed.

In use in the OR, The Pink Pad worked like a dream. Set-up was a total no-brainer. If an OR team cannot use this product as intended just by looking at it, they should not be working in a hospital. Positioning the patient was easy and the lift sheet was the perfect length with which to tuck the arms securely while providing almost immediate access should the need arise (as it actually did in one of our cases). With regard to slippage, there was none, even with a lot of pushing on the uterine manipulator and a Trendelenburg angle as steep as 29°. The Pink Pad® to the rescue.

Design/Functionality Score: 5