

3M™ Bair Hugger™ Warming Blankets and Gowns



Patient comfort that makes a world of difference

Throughout the product journey, Solventum, formerly 3M Health Care, is mindful of the impact our business can have on the environment. Learn how you can help support greener practices with Bair Hugger warming blankets and warming gowns.

Bair Hugger warming blankets and warming gowns contain polypropylene, which helps the medical fabric resist liquid penetration. We encourage you to check with your facility's waste management company to find out if they can recycle the Bair Hugger warming blankets and warming gowns based on their material contents displayed in the charts below.

Materials in Bair Hugger warming blankets



Data shown is representative for all blanket models. Exact data shown is for a 63500 Underbody Blanket.

Materials in Bair Hugger warming gowns



Data shown is representative for all gown models and sizes. Exact data shown is for a standard size OR Gown.

Reusable vs. single-use

A 2001 review study published by *Infection Control* and *Hospital Epidemiology* found that it is difficult to determine whether single-use or reusable products have a greater effect on the environment.²

It's important to consider that reusable linens, cotton gowns and warmed cotton blankets require:

- **Energy** Blanket warmers, washing machines and dryers require energy resources.
- Water Laundering reusable cotton gowns impacts water conservation.
- **Detergent** Using harsh detergents when washing can contribute to wastewater concerns.

On average, nine cotton blankets are used during a patient's perioperative stay in addition to a cotton patient gown. The average lifespan of a cotton blanket is 22 uses, due to wear and tear, damage and theft.³

Improper waste segregation can increase medical waste.

It is important to segregate medical waste appropriately and practice recycling in accordance with local, state and federal regulations.⁴

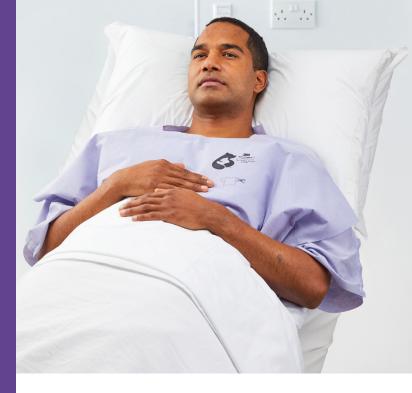
Please check your local, state and federal regulations for more information on the recycling possibilities for the Bair Hugger warming blankets and warming gowns within your healthcare facility.

Note: Blankets and gowns grossly contaminated with visible bodily fluids during surgery are usually incinerated with other surgical waste.

Responsible practices at every touchpoint

Bair Hugger warming blankets are manufactured at one site that:

- ► Achieved "zero landfill" status in January 2019.5
- Reduces edge trimming and waste to optimize raw materials.
- Recycles the majority of cardboard packaging back to the supplier to use again.
- Takes steps to minimize transportation needs by relying on local sources of supply.



Help make a difference, one gown at a time

To help conserve resources, Bair Hugger warming gowns are designed to be worn by patients before, during and after surgery. Each gown includes hose ports for use with warming units inside and outside the operating room.

From design to construction, Bair Hugger warming blankets and warming gowns help support greener practices and maintain patient normothermia.

For more information about the 3M™ Bair Hugger™ Temperature Management System, please contact your Solventum Sales Representative, call the Solventum Customer Helpline at 1-800-228-3957 or visit bairhugger.com

Note: Specific indications, limitations, contraindications, warnings, precautions, and safety information exist for these products and therapies. Please consult a clinician and product instructions for use prior to application. Rx only.

References:

- 1. 3M data on file. US-05-217572.
- 2. Rutala WA, Weber DJ. Review of single-use and reusable gowns and drapes in health care. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2001 Apr;22(4):248-257. doi: 10.1086/501895
- $3. \ \ Senn, GF. \ Some \ cold, hard \ facts \ about \ warmed \ cotton \ blankets. \ Surg \ Serv \ Manage. \ 2002; 8(3):19-25.$
- 4. AORN Position Statement on Environmental Responsibility. AORN Position Statement. AORN. Accessed June 28, 2022. https://www.aorn.org/docs/default-source/guidelines-resources/position-statements/patient-workplace-safety/posstat-safety-environmental-responsibility.pdf?sfvrsn=ddbc8b13_1
- 5. Sustainability and ESG: Overview and Commitments. 3M. 2022. Accessed August 02, 2022. https://www.3m.com/3M/en_US/sustainability-us/



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