



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tamarack Launches GlideWear Skin Protection Shorts for Women at Risk for Pressure Sores

Designed for Women Who Use Wheelchairs and Women in Long-Term Care

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. – October 23, 2017 – Tamarack Habilitation Technologies, a medical technology innovator, is expanding its GlideWear product line to include GlideWear Women’s Skin Protection Shorts. The shorts are designed for women at risk for developing pressure sores, especially those who use wheelchairs, have spinal cord injury, or are in long-term or home care.

Pressure sores (also called “pressure injuries,” “bed sores” or “pressure ulcers”) can seemingly come out of nowhere. What starts out as a red spot around the tailbone or SIT bones can become an open wound in a few hours. Once the skin has broken down, a pressure sore can be very difficult to heal.

“For someone who uses a wheelchair, a pressure ulcer can mean months of bed rest while the injury heals. It might prevent them from working or participating in activities with family and friends. One pressure ulcer can significantly reduce a wheelchair user’s quality of life, and put them at risk for infection and further complications down the road. Being proactive is essential,” says Caroline Portoghese, Senior Clinical & Education Specialist at Tamarack.

Pressure sores are caused in part by friction and shear. GlideWear Skin Protection Shorts feature a patented, dual-ply fabric that absorbs the harmful friction and shear between its two layers, thereby protecting the skin and tissue.

Pressure sores are a widespread problem affecting 2.5 million patients in hospitals across the country. Each year in the U.S., they lead to 60,000 deaths and cost \$9.1-11.6 billion.¹ Pressure sores are also incredibly painful and detrimental to quality of life. People who spend much of the day and night in bed or sitting – especially people with limited mobility or reduced sensation due to paralysis or stroke – are at increased risk for developing pressure sores.

GlideWear Skin Protection Shorts were designed specifically for women who are at risk for pressure sores, and can be used in both home and medical settings. The shorts feature patented GlideWear skin protection technology; built-in control with a comfortable, yoga-style waistband; a breathable cotton liner; and a tapered thigh contour designed to accommodate muscle atrophy. The shorts can be worn as base layer or over an incontinence brief or compression garment.

“We hear every day from wound care nurses, doctors, caregivers, and wheelchair users looking for a solution that addresses the underlying causes of pressure injuries. We’re enthusiastic about expanding our skin protection offerings to include a product, designed specifically for women, that significantly reduces the contributing factors of friction and shear,” says Joe Hofmeister, CEO of Tamarack.

GlideWear Women’s Skin Protection Shorts join a growing line of GlideWear skin protection products that includes Men’s Skin Protection Underwear, Heel and Ankle Protection Socks, Prosthetic Liner Patches, and Diabetic Foot Protection Socks.

¹ Berlowitz D, Lukas C, Parker V, et al. Preventing pressure ulcers in hospitals: A toolkit for improving quality of care. April 2011. Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Rockville, MD.



About GlideWear

GlideWear (www.glidewear.com) is an innovative, patented, ultra-low-friction fabric that is widely used in medical and sports applications. GlideWear reduces the friction and shear that contribute to skin breakdown, pressure ulcers, chafing, abrasion, and diabetic foot ulcers. GlideWear's skin protection product line includes Women's Skin Protection Shorts, Men's Skin Protection Underwear, Heel and Ankle Protection Socks, Prosthetic Liner Patches, Diabetic Foot Protection Socks, and other products that provided targeted skin protection. GlideWear is manufactured by Tamarack Habilitation Technologies, Inc.

About Tamarack Habilitation Technologies, Inc.

Tamarack Habilitation Technologies, Inc. (www.tamarackhti.com) is an ISO 13485 certified technology innovator in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Tamarack is dedicated to manufacturing innovative, clinically effective, and durable solutions to provide and restore mobility and comfort to our customers. Tamarack distributes its products worldwide in the orthotic and prosthetic, durable medical equipment, long term care, and consumer markets.

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