



**Why proactive temperature
management should be
the new standard
of perioperative care.**

The impact of perioperative hypothermia on patients and facilities

Core temperature is a critical vital sign. If you're not monitoring continuously and managing consistently, you could be putting patients at risk. A core temperature below 36.0°C can cause perioperative hypothermia, which can:



This can have a large impact on facility costs:

2.6
days longer

The average hospital length of stay is 2.6 days longer for a hypothermic patient¹

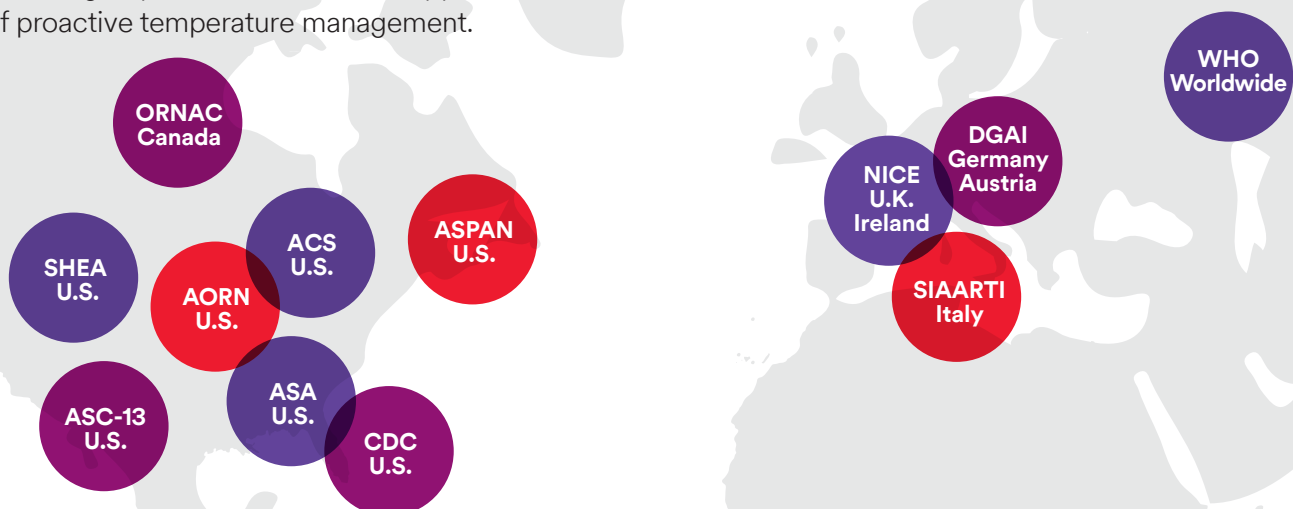


\$7K

When a patient becomes hypothermic, it can cost up to \$7,000⁶

Global support for perioperative temperature management

Several groups around the world support and recommend the core tenets of proactive temperature management.



Current patient warming misconceptions and realities

Some clinicians have misconceptions about patient warming and temperature management.

MISCONCEPTION

“Commingling – the practice of using one manufacturer’s forced-air warming system hardware in combination with another manufacturer’s disposable product – is okay.”



REALITY

Commingling may not be supported by manufacturers, as it can be dangerous and contradict provided Instructions for Use. As a result, the facility that undertakes the unsupported combination may be exposing its patients to unnecessary risk for injury.

MISCONCEPTION

“It is okay to reuse disposable forced-air warming blankets”



REALITY

An independent investigation recommends against the repeated use of single-use blankets because of bacterial contamination, regardless of whether these blankets are used intra-operatively or post-operatively.⁷ The bacteria type most often identified in the study was coagulase-negative staphylococci from patient skin, a major cause of post-operative surgical site infections.

MISCONCEPTION

“Hosing – the improper use of forced-air warming systems which occurs without the attachment of the inflatable blanket – is okay.”



REALITY

There are several reasons why hosing can result in injury: (1) The air temperature is elevated at the hose nozzle, (2) The nozzle may come into contact with the patient’s skin, which may result in thermal injury, and (3) Hot air is concentrated in one spot for an extended period of time, possibly for the duration of a surgical procedure.

MISCONCEPTION

“Cotton gowns and blankets are effective patient warming methods.”

REALITY

Heat from a warmed cotton blanket is quickly lost to its surroundings, making cotton blankets an ineffective way to prevent perioperative hypothermia.

MISCONCEPTION

“The temperature monitoring modality I use doesn’t really matter.”

REALITY

Using multiple modalities throughout the surgical process can result in variable and inaccurate data.

MISCONCEPTION

“My patient isn’t cold, so I don’t need to prewarm.”

REALITY

Prewarming isn’t only about patient comfort in the pre-op phase; it’s to help prevent hypothermia in the intra-op and post-op phases.

Clinicians can confidently Own the Zone with proactive temperature management

To Own the Zone, or maintain a core body temperature between 36.0°C and 37.5°C,⁸ you need to provide active warming and consistent core temperature monitoring from the second the patient enters pre-op until the moment they’re released.



How to Own the Zone throughout the periop process

Actively measure patient temperature. Prewarm with 3M™ Bair Hugger™ forced-air warming blanket and gown systems to help prevent hypothermia.

Monitor core temperature during surgery with the 3M™ Bair Hugger™ temperature monitoring system. Proactively achieve and maintain normothermia with 3M™ Bair Hugger™ blanket or gown systems.

Continue to monitor patient temperature. Warm patients using 3M™ Bair Hugger™ blanket and gown systems to aid recovery and improve the patient experience.

Pre-op

Intra-op

Post-op

With the right partner, you can confidently Own the Zone

The 3M™ Bair Hugger™ normothermia system is ideal for all of your patient warming needs – leveraging clinically researched technologies that are trusted and proven.



A full line
of blankets, gowns
and temperature
monitoring solutions



170+
studies
supporting clinical
benefits, efficacy
and safety



Used in more than
80%
of hospitals
in the U.S.A.



**3MSM Health
Care Academy**

Choose the solution that's warmed more than
300 million patients

Learn how to confidently Own the Zone at BairHugger.com/OwntheZone

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