



The staff at JMS Burn Center depend on Immerse™ and Evolution® as their standard of care.

Burn Center Counts on Sizewise During COVID-19 Surge

The challenge was daunting: with COVID-19 as a backdrop, the staff at JMS Burn Center in Jackson, Miss., continued to see a high number of patients needing burn and reconstructive surgery. Then, another layer of urgency: the hospital's surge plan reshuffled space to create a special COVID-positive ICU.

"We gave away our dedicated Burn ICU and moved into a smaller Cardiac ICU," said William C. Lineaweaver, M.D., FACS, the center's medical director. "Burn care is one thing that definitely has to have some type of pandemic plan—because you're going to be right there through the whole thing."

The burn center generates 50 percent or more of total surgeries at Merit Health Central, their affiliated hospital. With restaurants closed and the population homebound during COVID-19 lockdown, JMS Burn saw more patients, too.

"The burns kept coming, and certainly hand trauma and other complex surgeries. We canceled our elective cases for about four weeks," said Dr. Lineaweaver.

Sizewise Rep A.J. Cochet proactively reached out to assess bed and support surface needs, coordinating quick delivery of 10 Immerse™ low air loss surfaces on Evolution® low beds.

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"Sizewise service is just—*bingo!* Need-a-bed, got-a-bed kind of thing," said Dr. Lineaweaver. "That was our ace in the hole, so to speak. It's the kind of thing where if we didn't have it, it would be a hiccup from my point of view."

JMS Burn Center began using the Sizewise products exclusively in 2016, having previously placed all burn patients on air-fluidized therapy (AFT). With a 13.5-day average length of stay, patients found Immerse to be more comfortable than AFT and following data collection, nurses became convinced it supported better patient care.

Lineaweaver said since changing to Immerse, his team hasn't looked back. And following the initial COVID-19 surge, it was clear the Sizewise relationship brought an added level of critical support when it was needed most.

"These products do not exist in a vacuum. They require delivery, maintenance, flexibility, and troubleshooting," said Lineaweaver. "We get all that support from the Sizewise team!"