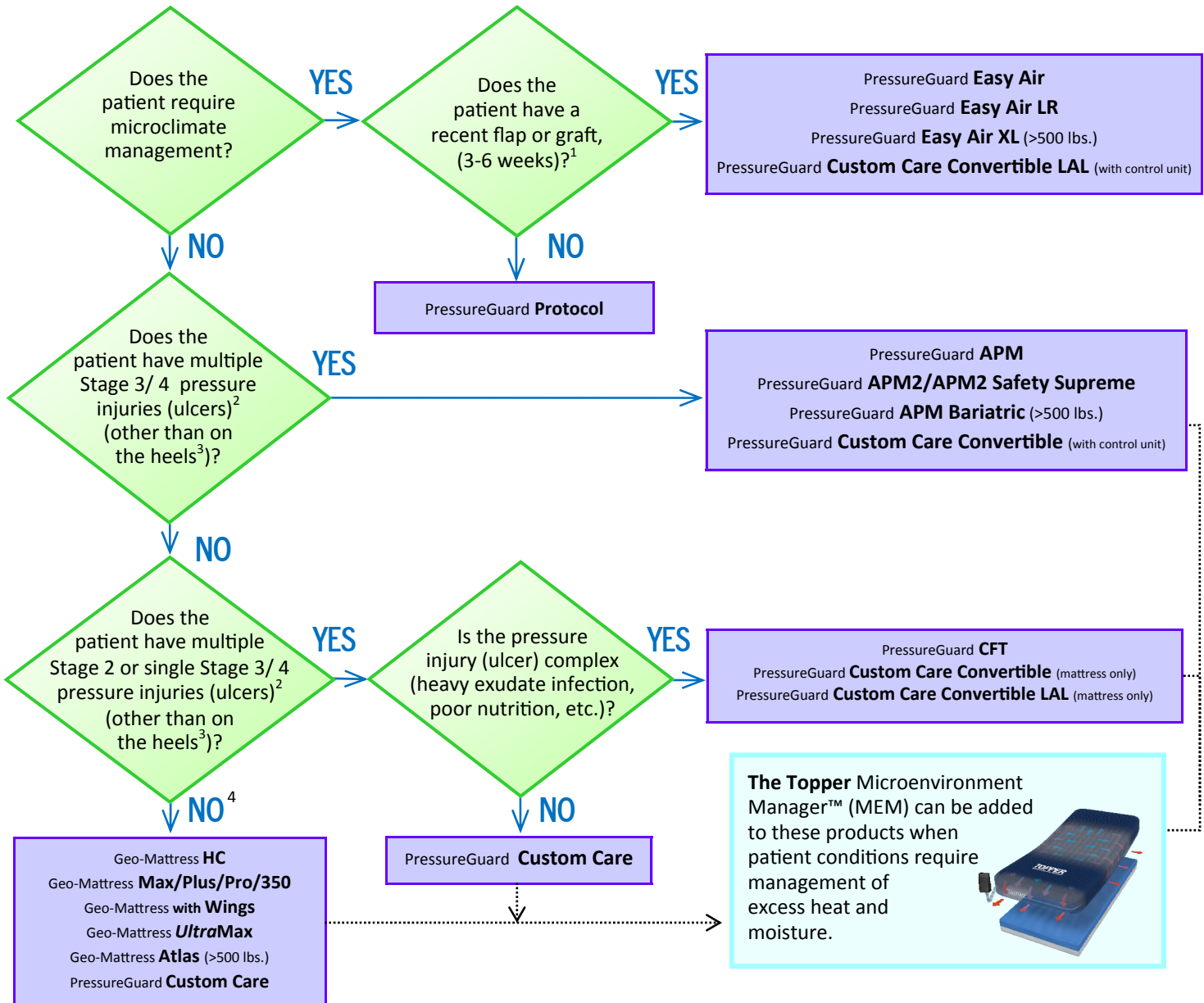


## Support Surface Management ALGORITHM

This algorithm is meant as a guide, not a substitute for clinical judgment. It should be used only as an adjunct to a full patient assessment, and should not preclude use of any product positioned higher on the algorithm.



**Notes/Clinical References:**

- Follow surgeon's recommended schedule for graduated tissue loading, including specific guidelines regarding duration and repositioning. Avoid sliding resident on surface during repositioning, ADLs & transfers. Source: *Wound Care Practice. Sheffield, P. 1st edition, 2004, Chapter 17, P. 345.* Other Span surfaces may be appropriate if used according to the guidelines.
- In situations where positioning on the pressure injury (ulcer) cannot be avoided (e.g. the individual has multiple injuries [ulcers] on multiple surfaces), limit the amount of time the individual is positioned on the injury (ulcer). Source: *NPUAP/EPUAP Pressure Ulcer Prevention & Treatment, Clinical Practice Guideline, p. 66-67.*
- Heel injuries (ulcers) are difficult to heal and should be elevated off of the bed. Consider using Heel Manager™ or other Span positioners.
- UltraMax* may also be appropriate for multiple Stage 2 or single Stage 3 pressure injuries (ulcers), and Max, Plus, Pro, Wings, Atlas or 350 may be appropriate for single Stage 2 pressure injuries (ulcers), based on full assessment of skin status and repositioning required, according to best clinical practice and judgment.

Arabic numbers are now used in the names of the stages instead of Roman numerals. The term "pressure injury" replaces "pressure ulcer" in the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel Pressure Injury Staging System according to the NPUAP. *NPUAP press release 4/13/16*