**Mattress audit tool**

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| Bed no | Mattress type | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q5 | Q6 | Q7 | Q8 | Q9 | Q10 | COMMENTS |
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**Mattress audit guidance questions**

 Question 1 - A minimum of 5 inches deep (12.5cm)

 Question 2 - Fitted with a waterproof cover

 Question 3 - Free of stains

 Question 4 - Free of tears

 Question 5 - Free of dipping (see note 1)

 Question 6 - Has the mattress passed the water test? (see note 2)

 Question 7 - Is the mattress labelled?

 Question 8 - Is the bed frame mesh?

 Question 9 - Is the bed frame free of contamination with blood and other body fluids?

 **Items 1 – 6 are essential criteria (Failure of one or more means mattress should be condemned)**

**NOTE 1 – Hand Compression Assessment**

**1. Adjust the height of bed so that it is the same level as the tester’s head of trochanter (hip).**

**2. Link hand to form a fist and place them on the mattress.**

**3. Keep elbows straight and lean forward, applying the full body weight to the mattress.**

**4. Repeat the hand compression along the entire length of the mattress.**

**5. Note any variation in the density of the foam including whether the base of the base of the bed can be felt through the foam.**

**6. The mattress should be condemned if it is found to bottom out or if the foam is found to be stained, damp or odorous.**

 **(Dunford 1994)**

**NOTE 2 – Water Penetration Test**

**1. Undo the zip and place a sheet of absorbent tissue between the cover and the foam.**

**2. Using the fist, indent the mattress to form a shallow well and pour tap water (about half a cup) into the well.**

**3. Agitate the surface with the fist for one minute to increase contact and then mop up water.**

**4. Inspect tissue for water marking.**

**5. Repeat procedure on reverse side of the mattress.**

**6. The cover should be replaced if it is found to fail the above test or it is damaged.**

**(Dunford 1994)**