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To everyone at Heart Hugger,

We are now celebrating the 1st Anniversary of our Open Heart Program here at Community Health Partners, Lorain, OH. What a year it has been! I wanted to take a moment to let you know my thoughts on your product, the "Heart Hugger Sternum Support Harness". A year ago, when we were starting our program, we researched MANY sternal support devices. After researching them all, trying them all, discussing the pros & cons of each, we decided to go ahead with the "Heart Hugger". We've never looked back!

Personally, I have been an Open Heart Nurse for the past 15 years. I've done the sheets folded in a pillow case. I've done the sternal pillows. I've instructed to hug and have hugged at times! In my opinion, NONE of these procedures can compete with your "Heart Hugger". As a clinician I have seen the difference in my patient's faces, progress and use of pain medication.

Our patients have no difficulty in using the harness at all. They are well supported at all times. There is no searching for support on the floor or in the bed. It is with them at all times. I have yet to hear a complaint from any patient on the product. I am relieved to know that their incisions are not being contaminated with whatever was on the floor, fluids that have gone unnoticed on pillows/sheets, or with any thing else that may have soiled their support device. If the harness does become soiled, it is easily laundered and clean when needed.

Our patients have all come to love their "parachute handles". They state that they feel secure in breathing, coughing and moving when they "hold onto their parachute". It truly is a safety net, just like a parachute, to our patients AND their families. We have had visitors/family members who have undergone surgeries at other facilities question "Hey, why didn't I get one of those? That seems to be so much easier to use and comfortable."

The improvement in our patient's overall recovery is visible with each cough, movement and discharge. Thanks once again for a GREAT product.

Sincerely,

Jannett D. Ammons, RN, BSN
CVICU/MICU Nurse Educator