Midmark: **Optimizing for Patient Care and Provider Comfort**

By Kurt Forsthoefel

Function, efficiency and versatility are fundamental pillars of effective design-and they all come together in a well-planned podiatry procedure zone.

The podiatry room is often a 10 ft. x 12 ft. space with storage and supplies occupying the walls away from the family/visitor zone. The storage zone includes a fixed work surface area, a pull-out work surface section, lower and upper cabinets, and mobile supply carts for additional flexibility.

All primary instruments and supplies are part of the mobile cart unit.

The procedure chair is easily accessible to the patient and conveys comfort. Ample clearance is provided for the caregiver to have access to the foot section from three sides. This access includes the swing arm instrument tray, which brings supplies to the point of care.

Most importantly, the ease of adjustability of the procedure chair at the point of care lets the caregiver optimize the position of the patient. A wireless foot control avoids cord clutter around the procedure chair and Diagram 2 prevents trip hazards.

Midmark offers several procedure chairs to help facilitate provider and patient comfort, including:

- The Midmark 647 provides ergonomic foot section design to put control right where it's needed—the foot section. Powered base, back and tilt provide effortless positioning, and easy-to-reach release handles on both sides of the foot section allow for smooth, one-handed operation. Covered glides and a sealed foot control protect internal components from dirt and debris to simplify cleaning and ensure a longer product life.
- The Midmark 630 HUMANFORM* is designed to complement the human body with more natural moment and enhanced positioning capabilities. Its Barrier-Free* design provides best-in-class, 18-inch low seat height and a 650pound weight capacity.

The designs in diagrams 1 and 2 address the many

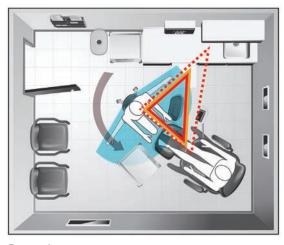
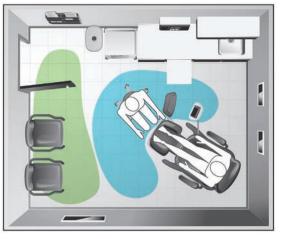


Diagram I



needs of the procedure zone. The podiatry chair is positioned at an angle, which provides more effortless access to the foot areawhether in a seated or standing position. The room also provides an abundance of streamlined, well-organized storage.

Procedure Zone Flexibility

The procedure zone puts the caregiver in the center. While the cart for primary instruments and supplies can be adjacent to the storage system along the wall, during procedures it is moved to either side of the caregiver. This helps to maintain a short reach zone. An instrument trav attached to the procedure chair supports instruments and supplies or mobile devices.

Public/Private Zones

The family/visitor zone, also known as the public zone, does not encroach on the movement of the caregiver. It includes displays for educational brochures and related care products and is clearly separated from the procedure zone.

Additional procedure room design considerations include:

• Clinical Process Improve-

ments: The podiatry chair is positioned at an angle, which provides more effortless access to the foot area-whether in a seated or standing position. The room also provides an abundance of streamlined, well-organized storage.

- Americans with Disabilities Act: The height-adjustable procedure chair decreases the need for manually lifting and repositioning patients. The center of the room is kept open to allow a 60-inch wheelchair turning area. There is also ample room for patient egress.
- Real Time Locating Systems: Use of a real-time locating system or patient self-rooming workflow can assist in waste reduction efforts that help eliminate costly bottlenecks.

To learn more about how Midmark can help design a functional, efficient and versatile procedure space, visit MidmarkClinicalSolutions.com or click here.