

UNIT 2 Caring for patients
in Recovery after an operation

- a** Look at the picture of a *Bair Hugger* (right). The *Bair Hugger* can be used to help patients in Recovery and on the ward after they have had an operation.

In pairs, discuss the following questions.

- 1 What do you think the *Bair Hugger* does?
- 2 What medical condition might the *Bair Hugger* prevent?



- b** Now read the information about the *Bair Hugger*, below, to check your ideas.

Prevention of perioperative hypothermia**Warming units**

Bair Hugger therapy was the first forced-air warming product-line introduced and it remains the market leader today. Forced-air warming therapy is now the standard choice for preventing hypothermia and the *Bair Hugger* Models 505 & 750 provide safe, quiet, and effective warming for patients.

- c** Complete the next extract about the *Bair Hugger* using words from the box below.

warmed	hypothermia	blanket	perioperative
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Bair Huggers can be used during the (1) _____ period. This means 'around the time of an operation'. Some patients feel very cold after an operation and can suffer from (2) _____ or very low temperature. This device blows (3) _____ air around the patient. The device is placed beneath the (4) _____ or duvet which covers the patient.

Word Study

The prefixes *peri-* (around), *hypo-* (very low) and *hyper-* (very high) are common in medical terminology.

d Match the terms 1–4 below with their meanings a–d.

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|------------------|---|
| 1 perinatal | a membrane around the heart |
| 2 pericardium | b very high blood sugar level |
| 3 periocular | c very high activity level |
| 4 hypoglycaemia | d very low oxygen level |
| 5 hyperglycaemia | e very low blood sugar level |
| 6 hyperactivity | f around the eye |
| 7 hypoxic | g period of time just before and just after birth |

Share your knowledge

- 1 Why would this technology be used with postoperative patients?
- 2 What are the advantages of the Bair Hugger?