

## **INTERNSHIP/FINAL THESIS – User study for ReMat (Reinventing Circular and Functional Mattresses for the Healthcare Sector)**

The investigational product, ReMat – Reinventing Circular and Functional Mattresses for the Healthcare Sector – is a groundbreaking innovation aimed at addressing the need for sustainable and functional mattresses in healthcare settings. This initiative is part of RAAK-mkb and Pioneers and Healthcare (PIHC) projects, which involve collaborative efforts among key healthcare institutions such as MST, De Twentse Zorgcentra (DTZC), and Zorgfederatie Oldenzaal (ZFO).

ReMat emphasizes the use of a mono-material approach, enabling the product to align with the principles of a circular economy. Alongside sustainability, the design prioritizes patient comfort, durability and hygiene, making it a practical solution for both intramural and extramural healthcare institutions.

### **TASK DESCRIPTION**

The primary goal is to evaluate the performance of the ReMat mattress in real-world healthcare environments. The study will compare the ReMat mattress with currently used alternatives, focusing on:

- Sleep quality and comfort.
- The incidence of pressure ulcers.

The feedback collected will guide the further development of the mattress, ensuring it meets the needs of both patients and relevant stakeholders

As an intern, you will play a key role in this project. Your responsibilities will include:

- Support in the study set-up (in collaboration)
- Conducting research across participating healthcare institutions (e.g., ZFO, MST, DTZC), engaging with patients and staff.
- Processing and analyzing the collected data to evaluate mattress performance and user satisfaction.
- Preparing a comprehensive report and presenting findings to stakeholders.
- Collaborating on the possibility of publishing an article based on the research findings.

### **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

- We are seeking a motivated and hands-on student with a background in Health Sciences or a related field. Ideal candidates should have the ability to connect diverse fields of expertise and a proactive approach to involving relevant stakeholders in the research process.
- Enthusiastic and independent work ethic.
- Strong communication and collaboration skills.
- Analytical mindset with an interest in healthcare innovation and sustainability.
- The opportunity to collaborate with leading project partners in healthcare and sustainability.

- Hands-on experience with an innovative product in real-world healthcare settings.
- **Contact person(s) for this assignment:** Melissa van Schaik / [m.e.vanschaik@saxion.nl](mailto:m.e.vanschaik@saxion.nl) +31616007678
- **Research group Sustainable and Functional Textiles:** [saxion.nl/sft](https://saxion.nl/sft)