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Bubble Actuated Automotive Seat Cushion

INVENTOR: Muthu Wijesundara, PhD.

TECHNOLOGY NEED
Americans spend a lot of time in their vehicles. The American traveler spends an average of 38 hours a year just stuck in traffic. Unfortunately, this time spent completing this sedentary task is slowly killing us. Many detrimental health effects come from poor posture. Studies have revealed that poor posture is correlated with depression, obesity, and increased stress. As comfortable as a car seat cushion is, it is difficult to maintain an ideal position for extended periods of time.

INVENTION DESCRIPTION/SOLUTION
Researchers at UTA have developed a bubble actuated cushion system that uses sensors to manage the pressure and shape of the surface that would interact with the user. The system works automatically and while in use. This will encourage the user to maintain good posture by preventing pressure points from developing and increasing blood flow to areas of the body in contact with the cushion.

APPLICATIONS
- Automotive seats

KEY BENEFITS
- Active/Responsive seat cushion system
- Redistributes pressure for user comfort and good posture
- Readjusts user’s positioning to prevent pressure ulcers

STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT
- Prototyped and Tested

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STATUS
- US patent Application US20160331556A1