

Safe Patient Handling- Patient Mobility Tool

If your patient **cannot** do any or all of the following:

A.) Sit upright on the side of bed B.) Sit or lean forward in a chair without assistance or C.) Understand and follow instructions appropriately and cooperatively, then use a mechanical or overhead lift and place a repositioning sheet on the bed.

*If your patient is at **high risk for falls**, consider using safe patient handling equipment/aids for related patient handling tasks.

Anytime you anticipate lifting greater than 35lbs, use lift equipment/aids.

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INDEPENDENT

- Cooperative and cognitive
- Able to bear full weight
- Consistent reliable in balance
- Mobilizes independently without assistance



No assistance required

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SUPERVISED PARTIAL ASSIST

- Able to bear full weight
- Consistent reliable balance
- May need verbal cues to use mobility assist devices.



1 person observation and/or assist:

- Contact guard
 - Walker/cane/crutches, with training
 - Non-motorized stand aid
 - Glide board for seated transfers, with training
- Use equipment to give them a place to fail safely. Do not catch or bear weight.

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MINIMAL PARTIAL ASSIST

- Able to bear most (> 75%) of own weight
- Has ability to balance
- Understands and cooperates
- Good bilateral upper body strength
- Can maintain a seated position



1 or 2 person assist with use of equipment (no manual lifting or catching):

- Non-motorized stand aid if able
- Fall protection from ceiling lift sling
- Glide board for seated transfers, with training
- Motorized stand assist

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MODERATE PARTIAL ASSIST

- Follows simple commands, cooperative
- Able to bear some (> 25%) of own weight
- Has some upper body strength
- Sits up well with assist



1-2 person assist with equipment (Minimum 2 for complicated patients):

- Motorized stand assist
- Bed assist features
- Ceiling lift or floor lift
- Repositioning slings
- Air-assisted lateral transfer or roll board
- Slide sheets
- Glide board for seated transfers on trained, able patients
- Repositioning aids to pull up, turn, or prevent slipping down

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MAXIMUM/DEPENDENT ASSIST

- Unable to assist in most (0-25%) of own mobility
- Unable to bear weight
- Unable to follow directions



1-3 person assist with equipment (Minimum 2 for complicated patients):

- No Ambulation on their own
- Ceiling lift or floor lift
- Bed assist features, turning slings
- Roller board or air-assisted lateral transfer
- Repositioning slings
- Air-assisted lifting
- Slide sheets to lower friction
- Avoid manual lifting