

SAFETY BASICS *Healthcare Series*

Resident Lifting

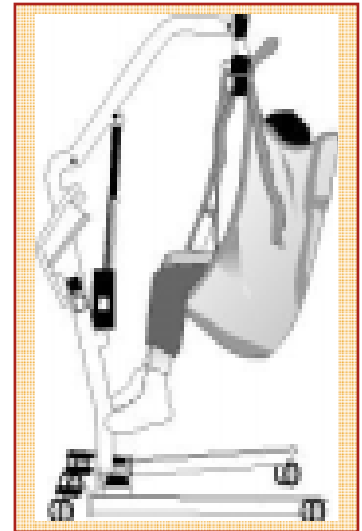
Activity: Resident Handling

Description: Portable lift device (sling type); can be a universal/ hammock sling or a band/leg sling

When to Use: Lifting residents who are totally dependent, are partial or non-weight bearing, are very heavy, or have other physical limitations. Transfers from bed to chair (wheelchair, Geri or cardiac chair), chair or floor to bed, lateral transfers, or for bathing and toileting. Enhances resident safety and comfort.

Points to Remember: May require two or more caregivers. Look for a device with a variety of slings, lift-height range, battery portability, hand-held control, emergency shut-off, manual override, and boom pressure sensitive switch. Having multiple slings allows one of them to remain in place while resident is in bed or chair for only a short period, reducing the number of times the caregiver lifts and positions resident.

Ensure lifting device is in good working order before use and is rated for the load weight to be lifted. Electric/battery powered lifts are preferred to crank or pump type devices to allow a smoother movement for the resident, and less physical exertion and risk of musculoskeletal injury to the caregiver.



Safety Basic Health Care Series Information is extracted directly from OSHA safety materials. For additional information consult www.OSHA.gov