

## SAFETY BASICS *Healthcare Series*

### Resident Lifting

**Activity:** Resident Handling

**Description:** Portable compact lifts

**When to Use:** Lifting residents who are totally dependent, partial or non-weight bearing, or have other physical limitations. Transfers from bed to chair (wheelchair, Geri or cardiac chair), chair or floor to bed, chair to car, lateral transfers, or for bathing and toileting. Increases resident safety and comfort during transfer. Can be used where space or storage is limited.



**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 a caregiver lifts and positions the resident.

Always ensure lifting device is in good working order before use and 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](http://www.OSHA.gov)