

ABBREVIATED



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Lifting and Transfer Devices: A Bridge Between Safe Patient Handling and Pressure Ulcer Prevention

- Pressure ulcers and musculoskeletal injuries are 2 of the most common, costly, and yet largely preventable harms encountered in health care.
- In a series of experiments, the pressure-redistribution qualities of a novel bedsheet, designed for dual use as a lifting sling, were compared to cotton or polyester/cotton sheets.
- Each sheet was placed upon 1 of 3 commonly encountered therapeutic mattresses. A human analogue (mannequin) weighing 80 kg was placed on the mattress, and the pressure at the body-mattress interface recorded.
- The results indicate the lifting sheet has no detrimental effect on the pressure-redistributing performance of the mattress, while the inherent textile properties appear to have superior microclimate (heat and moisture control) qualities while also being soft and flexible.
- By replacing the hospital bed-sheet with a constantly accessible lift sheet, safe practice is encouraged.

Decision Making for Safe Patient Handling and Mobility Technology in an Early Mobility Program: A Case Report

- This descriptive case study outlines the decision-making factors used by therapists for integrating SPHM with early mobilization treatments for a female patient who had suffered a stroke and was treated at a facility with a mature SPHM program and a growing early mobility program.
- The patient was mobilized to a higher level of function than the therapy team felt they could achieve without use of the SPHM technology, which increased safety and enabled increased patient activity and progressive upright mobility with fewer staff involved.

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Use of Resident Handling Equipment by Nursing Aides in Long-Term Care: Associations with Work Organization and Individual Level Characteristics

- In 8 nursing homes, nursing aides' (NAs) frequency of RHE use and reasons for inconsistent use were assessed by questionnaire up to 4 times after SRHP implementation.
- At least two-thirds of NAs reported "often" or "always" lift use.
- Higher RHE use was related to higher SRHP commitment, higher prior SRHP expectations, older age, higher health self-efficacy, and lower supervisor support.
- "Device not available when needed" and "residents dislike" were major reasons consistently cited for not using RHE.
- While this program has been effective, attention to device availability, education of residents and family members on SRHP importance and worker empowerment might increase usage further.

Overcoming Barriers to Mobilizing Bariatric Patients: Three Case Studies

- This paper describes the use of safe patient handling technology for 3 different patients across different care settings, all of whom had significant barriers to mobility.
- The 3 cases each had a unique rationale for choice of safe patient handling and mobility (SPHM) solutions and unique application of the SPHM technologies.
- The staff and patients at all 3 facilities felt the SPHM technologies significantly affected the course of care and the patient outcomes.
- Use of SPHM technologies can assist in overcoming barriers to early and progressive mobility for patients of all sizes.
- Further research is needed in the form of prospective trials to determine the most effective use of technologies and optimal timing of interventions for all patients, particularly for bariatric patients.

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