

ABBREVIATED



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Factors Impacting the Patient Migration in Hospital Beds: Pathway to Reduce Patient Handling Injuries

- Using standardized tools can help achieve consistency.
- Patient migration, or displacement toward the foot of the bed, increases the risk of skin tears and pressure ulcers for patients and low back injuries for nurses.
- The impact of differing body types on migration were evaluated when lying supine on 4 different beds during a series of head of bed (HOB) elevations (30 and 45 degrees).
- Less displacement was noted when patients were in beds with complex head positioning ability.
- Greater migration was noted when patients were sat up at the most commonly used angles of 30 degrees and 45 degrees.
- Implications from this research is applicable for all companies that sell equipment to reposition patients up and in the bed.

Functional Assessments for Safe Patient Mobilization Across the Continuum of Care

- Using standardized functional assessment tools can help achieve consistency across all disciplines in decision-making for appropriate use of SPHM equipment to assist patients with the appropriate level of mobility.
- When choosing functional assessment tools the following should be considered:
 - the intended function,
 - intended users to administer the test/measure,
 - population for whom the tool is intended when it was developed,
 - strength (clinometric properties) of the instrument,
 - ease of implementation, and
 - how well the results are understood and communicated to team members in the facility.

The article discusses each in detail.

- The author analyses the function and measure of a variety of different tools.
- It is important to not just assume one functional assessment tool serves all patients and addresses all the issues that determine their need for SPHM technology.

Get Recognized - Nominations currently being accepted for the 2019 SPHM Technology Innovation Award!

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International Round Table Discussion: What is Working, What Needs to Change, and Where Does the Future Lie?

- This discussion included an internationally recognized SPHM consultant, a senior member of one of the most recognized SPHM companies, and the Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of SPHM*.
- Everyone acknowledged they had seen a major changes over the years including SPHM becoming a much more evidence- based solution, there has been huge growth in the technological solutions, such as ceiling lifts and more advanced floor-based lifts, and air-assisted devices have evolved. The development of a wide variety of slings for many different purposes, single patient use equipment, and the passing of some, but not enough, SPHM legislation.
- The changes are being driven by an older patient population, financial motivations, the desire to provide a better experience for the patient by preventing falls, avoiding poor manual handling techniques that cause pain to the patient, preventing skin tears with poor manual handling techniques, the desire to mobilize patients earlier to prevent DVT, pneumonia, and other physical conditions caused by immobility as well as the desire to avoid readmissions and staff injury costs.
- The discussion about what the future holds includes: robotics and AI(in Japan), research to evaluate if exoskeletons can be used by caregivers to move patients and safely reduce loading of the lumbar spine, safe use of technology by a single caregiver, continue to provide training to users to prevent error and accidents, expansion into home care and community, working with agencies such as the Joint Commission, benchmarking and measuring staff compliance, more legislation, and greater use of the different SPHM technologies in long term care.