

PATIENT EDUCATION



Patient Lifter



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HEALTHCARE

Breathe Easier.

What Does A Patient Lifter Do?

The purpose of the patient lifter is to enable one person to lift and move a patient safely with as little physical effort as possible.

This type of patient lifter facilitates bed transfers, wheelchair transfers, toilet transfers, automobile transfers, and floor transfers. The device also aids in bath transfer and swimming pool transfers with appropriate accessory equipment.

Lifting A Patient From A Bed

- Stand beside the bed, place the bed rails in the up and locked position, and lift the patient's opposite foot and leg up and across the nearer foot and leg.
- Carefully roll the patient toward you onto his/her side.
- Place the seat or sling lengthwise on the bed behind the patient with the lower edge of the sling positioned just below the knees. The half of the sling nearest the patient's back should then be folded in an "S" or accordion configuration, and the opposite half extended flat on the bed.
- Carefully roll the patient onto his/her back. Slip your hands under the patient and pull the folded part of the sling out to a position centered under the patient. Initially, it may require little practice with positioning the sling behind the patient before you will be able to have the sling properly centered when the patient is rolled onto his/her back.
- If the patient is in a hospital bed, it should now be adjusted to the Fowler position. Elevate the foot of the bed to flex the patient's knees, and then elevate the head of the bed. If the patient is in a home bed, have the patient flex his/her knees or place a pillow under his/her knees to support them in a flexed position.
- Bring the lifter into position with the base under the side of the bed. Then lower the lift arm over the patient by opening the hydraulic release valve and pressing down on the lift arm.
- Insert the open "S" hooks of the shorter portion of the chains into the holes in the back (top). Insert the open "S" hooks of the longer part of the chains into the holes in the seat (bottom). The "S" hooks should be inserted all the way into the holes in the sling from the inside so that the ends of the hooks are away from the patient.
- Insert the closed "S" hooks of the chains into the ends of the swivel bar. Check to see that the hooks are seated fully into the swivel bar.
- Close the hydraulic release valve and pump the hydraulic handle. The sling will automatically lift the patient into a sitting position. The bedside rail on the side from which the transfer will take place can now be safely lowered. The patient may need your assistance lifting him/her from a home bed. If this is the case, place your hand behind his/her head and lift until he/she reaches a sitting position.
- When the patient has been lifted until the buttocks are clear of the bed, grasp the patient's legs and turn him/her until he/she is facing the lifter mast and his/her legs are off the side of the bed. Move the lifter away from the bed.
- When returning a patient to the bed, simply reverse the procedure.



If the patient is going to be transported in the lifter, turn him/her until he/she is facing the mast as just described. Slowly and carefully open the hydraulic release valve, which lowers the patient until his/her feet rest on or over the base of the lifter and straddle the mast. This lowers the center of gravity, making the lifter easier to push and providing greater stability. It also reduces pendulum action and makes the patient feel more secure. Push the lifter with the steering handles.

Note: It is not advisable to use the caster friction locks when the patient is in the lifter. These locks are intended for use during parking, storage or assembly only. The patient should not be in the lifter during their use.

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