

Safety Considerations

Clothing:

- Clothing may need to be altered to make dressing safer for the patient/resident and employees.
- Recommended clothing includes loose fitting, stretchy, and button front.

Bedding:

- Patient/resident beds are generally made with a fitted sheet, and a draw sheet system designed for easy movement of the patient/resident.
- Flannel sheets are not to be used for patients/residents who need help to move in bed.

Bathing:

- Employees will assess the abilities of the patient/resident and the most appropriate bathing / showering equipment will be used.

Room Space Requirements:

- Employees require space to safely handle and move patients/residents.
- Employees may need to restrict additional room furnishings or remove furniture from the room to provide safe care.

Time for care:

- Employees require time to safely assist all patients/residents with washing and dressing.
- The personal care/hygiene needs of the patient/resident will be met throughout the day. However not all patients/residents may be washed and dressed in the early morning.

We recognize the important role that the family has as part of the care team. As a family member you are able to provide valuable information to employees which will assist them in safely caring for your loved one.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the Safe Patient/Resident Handling and Movement Program please discuss your concerns with the Resident Care Manager.

"Change for the Better, Work Safe Together"



Safe Patient/Resident Handling and Movement

What it is.....

- The Safe Patient/Resident Handling and Movement Program promotes safety in the healthcare environment.
- The program focuses on the use of safe patient/resident handling and movement techniques and equipment specific for the patients/resident's abilities

Did you know....

Injuries can occur to patient/residents or employees during:

- Moving or turning a patient/resident in bed.
- Dressing/undressing a patient/resident who is wearing tight fitting clothing.
- Moving a patient/resident from one surface to another such as a bed to a chair.

Why the program is important....

- It promotes the **dignified and respectful care of patients/residents.**
- It promotes **patient/resident safety** ensuring that the movement and handling techniques and equipment used for care are appropriate for the patient/resident.
- It promotes **employee safety** while handling and moving patients/residents.
- It promotes a **consistent approach** to movement and handling for the patient/resident depending on the his/her abilities.

Components of the Program

Patient/Resident Assessment

- Employees will assess patient/resident abilities before providing care.
- Patient/resident handling and movement status is documented on the resident care plan.
- It is important to remember that techniques and equipment used with the patient/resident may change throughout the day depending on his/her abilities.

Safe Handling and Movement Techniques and Training

- Employees are trained in safe patient/resident handling and movement techniques.
- Often more than one employee will be required to safely handle and move a patient/resident.

Safe Handling Equipment Use and Training:

- Employees are trained in the use of safe patient/resident handling and movement equipment.
- There are many pieces of equipment throughout the facility.
- You will see transfer belts; floor based mechanical lifts, ceiling lifts, friction reducing devices (orange tubes, purple sheets, draw sheets)

Safe Resident Handling and Movement Equipment

Below you will see examples of some of the equipment that may be used while handling/moving patients/residents in the facility

Transfer Belt:



Mechanical Lifts: (Floor based, SARA, ceiling)



Friction Reducing Devices:

