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## Respiratory Therapy & Medical Equipment Services

*HCS... The Leading Company in the Merrimack Valley,  
North Shore and Southern New Hampshire*

**24 Hour  
Emergency  
Number:  
1-978-373-7771  
1-800-698-8113**

# Patient Instructions

## Commodes

There are various types of commodes available on the market today. Your personal needs will determine the type most appropriate for you. Our Home Care Specialists personnel can assist you in choosing. Commodes are usually purchased, however, they can be rented depending on your needs and circumstances.

Commodes can be used at the bedside or in the bathroom over the toilet. All commodes have adjustable heights using external leg extensions and are adjusted according to the patient's height. The legs also have non-skid rubber tips for increased stability and safety. Commodes are available with armrests for added comfort and to assist the patient when lifting off the commode.

It is **IMPORTANT** to remember that commodes have weight limits of usually 300 to 450 pounds (weight limit varies with style). We will assist you with selecting the proper commode to fit your care needs. We will make the adjustments required for your use and safety, and be sure you understand all instructions with your equipment before you use it. **REMEMBER;** if your needs change or you have any questions, call us.

### **INSTRUCTIONS AND CARE:**

1. Do not use this equipment without first reading and understanding all instructions.
2. We will assist you in selecting the desired height for the Commode. Aligning the snap button of each leg extension with the appropriate adjustment hole in the leg frame completes the height selected.
3. Make certain that the snap buttons are fully engaged into the adjustment hole of each leg frame and are at the same height before using.
4. Align the seat clamps of the toilet seat onto the back frame rail. (Each clamp should sit outside the rail holders.) Push down on seat until it clamps firmly into place.
5. Repeat the same process for the lid.

6. When removing the seat or lid, remove the lid first and then the seat. To remove, grasp the back corner of the lid and/or seat and lift up firmly.
7. Be sure ALL screws, nuts, and/or bolts are tight at all times.
8. Inspect rubber tips on the leg extensions for wear. Replace them immediately if they are worn or missing.
9. Leg extensions with rubber tips MUST be in contact with the floor at all times.
10. Users with limited physical capabilities should be supervised or assisted when using the commode.
11. Toilet cover MUST be DOWN before sitting on the commode. Pail holders are NOT constructed to support the weight of an individual.
12. CLEAN the commode with a damp cloth and soap.
13. All rented commodes should be returned to us.