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Respiratory Therapy & Medical Equipment Services

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

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Patient Instructions

PATIENT LIFT

General:

The purpose of the Patient Lift is to enable one person to lift and move a patient safely. The hospital or nursing agency should show the patient and caregiver proper technique. Please follow instructions carefully, as failure to do so may result in severe injury.

Instructions for use:

Sling set up: Place metal stays in canvas sling. Some units re equipped with canvas straps on the sling and metal hooks on the lift.

To place canvas sling under patient: Make sure the bed rails are up and locked. Stand beside the bed 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 side and place the sling length-wise on the bed behind the patient with the lower edge of the sling positioned just below the knees. The patient may hold onto the bed rails to keep him in this position. Fold the half of the sling nearest the patient in an accordion configuration making sure the other half of the sling extends flat on the bed. Roll the patient onto his back. Slip your hands under the patient and pull the folded part of the sling out flat. The sling must be centered under the patient. Insert head support bar into canvas sling and snap sling around metal support bar. Attach straps to sling.

(Note: There are 3 strap lengths: short, medium, and long.) Making sure the buckles and "S" hooks are to the outside, attach the short strap to the top hole, the longest strap to the 3rd hole, and the middle length strap to the 4th hole (bottom). Attach the "O" rings to the spreader bar located on the arm of the patient lift.

Note: **ALWAYS spread legs of Patient Lift before attaching the canvas sling!**

Operation of lift:

Position lift under the bed. (If you have the "C" base model, you will not need to spread the legs of the lift. Home Care Specialists personnel will explain this to you at time of delivery). Spread the legs of the lift by grasping the base shift handle and pushing the handle to the right toward the floor. Rotate the base shift handle clockwise 180 degrees and straighten base shift handle to upright position. Make sure the control valve is turned clockwise (to the right). Position the spreader bar over the patient and attach the canvas sling. To lift the patient, use the "S" shaped hydraulic pump handle. You will need to pump the handle many times to lift the patient. Once the patient is high enough to clear the bed, you may roll the patient to the desired area. To lower the patient, position the

patient directly over the place you wish the patient to be (bed, wheelchair, etc.). Rotate the control valve slightly counter clockwise (left) to begin descent. The patient will begin to descend. Control the speed of descent by how far you rotate the control valve.

Do not lower patient too fast. Care must be exercised to insure that you are always in control of the patient. If the patient is to be transported in the lift, turn him/her until he/she is facing the control valve by grasping the patient's legs and turning until he/she is facing the control valve and his/her legs are off the side of the bed. Slowly and carefully open the control valve and lower the patient until the patient's feet rest on or over the base of the lifter and straddle the lift mast. This will lower the patient's center of gravity providing greater stability and making the lift easier to push. Push the lift with the steering handles.

To transfer to a wheelchair (or other type of chair), raise the patient by pumping the hydraulic handle until the buttocks are above the seat height of the chair. With the patient's back toward the open end of the base, move the wheelchair into position under the patient and apply the wheelchair locks. With your non-dominant hand, release the control valve to lower the boom. For proper positioning of the patient in the wheelchair, push back gently on the patient's knees with your dominant hand while lowering the patient into the chair. This positions the hips well back into the seat of the chair. Lower the boom enough so there is enough slack in the chains to remove the hooks. Always leave the sling under the patient while he/she is in the chair. Patient lifts may also be used in conjunction with a sling that has a commode opening to lower the patient onto a home toilet if bathroom space permits, and also onto a bedside commode. When used with a toilet or commode, leave the sling attached to the spreader bar for greater stability.

Cleaning Instructions:

Wipe the patient lift with warm, soapy water to keep dust free and clean. Machine wash the canvas sling in cold water and air dry. Note: Always remove metal stays before washing the sling.

Warranty:

If you have purchased the patient lift, your warranty is for 1 year. The sling does not carry a warranty. If you are renting the patient lifter, your warranty is for the length of the rental period.