Safe Patient Handling and Mobility

Fallen Residents
Assist residents off the floor by either a mechanical total lift or a stand-by assist with the resident using a sturdy surface to get up.
Fallen Residents

- Assist the resident off the floor with either a total mechanical lift or a stand-by assist with the resident using a sturdy surface to get up.
- If a resident falls to the floor, notify appropriate staff members to assess for injuries.
- Under normal circumstances, a resident who falls to the floor should never be manually lifted.
- Use a total mechanical lift if the resident does not have the strength, weight-bearing ability or cognitive ability to stand with the chair technique.
- Comfort the resident. There is no rush to get them up, they can’t fall any further.
- Never leave the resident alone. Have a co-worker retrieve a chair or lift.
- Place the chair directly in front of the resident. The chair is to help provide balance and support for the resident.
- Log roll the resident to their side. From their side, the resident should be instructed to come to a four-point stance (caregiver should not lift them to a four-point stance – support only). If the resident is unable to come to a four-point stance, stop the transfer and use a total mechanical lift.
- With the resident holding the chair for support, they should be instructed to bring one foot forward. From this position, they should be able to come to a standing position.

Key Points to Remember

- If, at any time, the resident is unable to proceed, the transfer should be stopped, the resident should be lowered to the floor and a total mechanical lift should be used.
- At no time should the caregiver be required to lift or move the resident. If they are required to do so, the transfer should be stopped and a total mechanical lift should be used.

Conduct a Successful Stand-Up Training Talk

Here are the RULES for a successful training session:

R Recognize differences in participants’ backgrounds, knowledge and learning abilities.

L Lead and allow participants to take an active role in their learning.

E Experiences; tie in real-life examples and experiences relating to the concept.

S Summarize takeaways from the meeting at the end of the session.