Safe Patient Handling and Mobility

Total Mechanical Lifts

Use a total mechanical lift to transfer non-weight bearing residents.
Total Mechanical Lifts

- Use a total mechanical lift to transfer non-weight bearing residents/patients.

- The two caregivers should discuss the transfer prior to approaching the resident to make sure that both know the best practices and which one will take the lead. Plan ahead!

- Bring the equipment to the bedside. Make sure the proper size sling is used for the resident. Tell the resident who you are and explain the transfer procedure.

- A caregiver should be positioned on each side of the bed.

- Log roll the resident to place the sling under them.

- Secure the wheelchair from movement (if applicable).

- Position the lift at the side of the resident’s bed. Open the base of the lift to the widest point. Place the base underneath the bed so the overhead bar is centered over the resident. Tell the resident to cross their arms over their chest.

- Attach the sling to the lift spreader bar. Check all connections to make sure they are secure. Triple check that the loops are secure prior to raising; loops can slip off until they are taut. Review with staff the proper connection for the brand of lift/sling you use.

- Raise the resident off of the bed. One caregiver will operate the lift controls. The second caregiver will attend to the resident.

- When the lift is high enough to safely move the resident, maneuver the lift away from the bed. The caregiver on the control side of the lift will push/pull the lift. The second caregiver on the resident side of the lift will comfort/support the resident and assist with steering/positioning of the lift.

- If transferring the resident to a chair, position the lift so the chair is inside the base of the lift and the resident is directly over the chair. Slowly lower and position the resident into the chair.

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.

U Understand and communicate the training objectives.

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.