We Have Your Back
A Worker Safety Collaborative
An Initiative of the Florida Hospital Association

WORKER SAFETY WEDNESDAY WEBINAR SERIES:
SELECTING THE RIGHT PATIENT LIFT EQUIPMENT FOR YOUR FACILITY - LESSONS LEARNED
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2017
WE HAVE YOUR BACK
A HOSPITAL WORKER SAFETY COLLABORATIVE

WELCOME!
WHYB: Promoting workforce safety as an organizational priority in our hospitals

FOCUS AREAS:

- Safe patient lifting, handling and mobility
- Sharps injury and blood exposure prevention
- Workplace violence
- Finding solutions to reduce work stress, fatigue, and burnout
WHYB: Promoting workforce safety as an organizational priority in our hospitals

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Special Thank You to Our Sponsors!
Selecting the Right Patient Lift Equipment for Your Facility

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TAMPA, FLORIDA
Objectives

1. Review importance of having an evaluation team prior to purchase of equipment.
2. Describe items which should be considered when purchasing various equipment.
3. Discuss lessons learned
Disclaimer

- Do not work for a vendor.
- Will not discuss vendor specific equipment during webinar.
- Purpose of webinar is to provide guidance on what to look for when selecting equipment.
- Feel free to contact me after webinar if you do want to know more details on what we utilize at TGH.
Selecting patient lifting equipment

1. Evaluation team
2. Needs assessment
3. Meet with multiple vendors
4. Trial equipment
5. Training
Do you have an interdisciplinary evaluation team?

- Yes
- No
1. Evaluation Team

- Nursing staff & Managers
- Skin care team
- Therapy staff
- Transportation team
- Biomedical
- Maintenance/Facilities
- Infection prevention
- Purchasing
- House keeping
- Central supply
- Laundry service
- Employee health/worker’s comp team
2. Needs assessment

- Interview current staff: *What do they like or dislike about current equipment, any issues?*
- Injury reports
- What task do they need the equipment for? *(transfers on/off stretchers, beds, recliners, walking?)*
- Patient population? *(bariatric, cardiac, amputees?)*
- Space in room
- Storage
- Budget
- Scale
- Disposable or re-usable
Selecting equipment-General considerations

- Ease of use
- Portability and weight of equipment
- Battery: $, life, type (plug or wall), easy to change, purchase from vendor?
- Parts $
- Warranty & Recalls
- Weight capacity
- Cleaning: equipment and slings
- Sling type? sling storage? Sling re-stocking
- Cost include Education/training?
- Local support
What type of patient lift equipment do you currently utilize? (select all that apply)

- Portable ceiling lifts
- Permanent ceiling lifts
- Floor lifts
- Sit to stand devices
- Standing aids
- Air assisted devices
- Slide sheets
- Vehicle lift
- Other: (type responses in chat box)
What type of equipment are you looking to purchase?

- Portable ceiling lifts
- Permanent ceiling lifts
- Floor lifts
- Sit to stand devices
- Standing aids
- Air assisted devices
- Slide sheets
- Vehicle lift
- Other: (type responses in chat box)
Floor lifts-considerations

- Max height of lift:
  - Clear patient bottom to get back to bed *(issue if bed does not go very low)*

- Lowest height of lift:
  - To pick patient off the floor *(issue if sling loops short)*

- Boom length:
  - To assure patients legs don’t get stuck between boom.

- Width of legs get around chairs, commode, recliner, w/c, etc.

- Scale? Decreases lift height
Floor lifts—considerations

- **Carry bar:**
  - 2 point, 4 point or 6 point
  - Interchangeable?

- **Base height:**
  - Fit under stretchers, beds *(drive or box under bed or stretcher?)*
  - *Low base may be difficult to maneuver*
Ceiling lifts—considerations

- Full room or straight track
- Portable ceiling lift:
  - Weight, Storage, easy to use, durable
- Permanently mounted:
  - Charging location or continuous charge
  - Curtains?
  - TV
  - Ceiling height
Ceiling lifts - considerations

- Lights

- Installation coordination:
  - Room closure time, furniture, barriers, clean room after, electrical,

- Load test?
Lateral transfer devices—considerations

- Considerations:
  - Cost?
  - Portability aspect: pocket size or not
  - Leave under patients?
  - Accessibility
  - Weight of device
  - Laundry?
  - Task needed? Lateral transfers and repositioning
Sit to stand devices - considerations

- Patient lean back or nose over toes?
- Sling pull under the arms?
- Foot and knee plate wide enough?
- Tasks? Removable footplate
- Weight capacity
- Weight bearing arm platform?
Vehicle lifts

- Who will be primary users?
- How often will it be utilized?
- Storage location
- Ease of use
- Sling? Carry bar
3. Meet with several vendors

- Search the web for various options
- Create your list of what you are looking for
- Try equipment on staff
- Bring to various department for demo to get feedback
- Obtain list of reference
- Network with other facilities
4. Trialing equipment

- Once selected 1-3 equipment try in a few areas
- Create simple evaluation form
- Vendor fair
- Train all disciplines
Evaluation form

- Keep it simple and brief

- Rate: Ease of use, patient comfort, effort exerted to use, accessibility and availability, how many times used equipment, department

- Rate equipment. What they like and dislike

- Purchase Yes or No?
5. Training

- Once equipment purchased:
  - If vendors providing education: aware of policy and procedures (i.e. where to get additional slings, cleaning process, special precautions, etc.)
  - Train all disciplines (PT/OT, skin care, transport, house keeping for cleaning)
  - Training plan for new employees
Summary

- Selecting the right equipment is not as easy as it may appear.
- Having the right equipment can make or break your program.
- Make your list, start networking, build your team.
Questions?

- mlabreche@tgh.org
- Site visits free of charge to look at our equipment and lift team.
SPHM Events

- **October 4** – *Practical Solutions to Mobilizing the Bariatric Population*
  Webinar | 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EDT

- **November 1** – *Myths and Facts About Lift Team Programs*
  Webinar | 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. EDT

- **Details and Registration available at:**
September 19-20 – WHYB Worker Safety Annual Conference

The Westin Lake Mary, Lake Mary, Florida

Details and Registration available online at: http://www.fha.org/health-care-issues/workforce.aspx
Eligibility for Nursing CEU requires submission of an evaluation survey for each participant requesting continuing education: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8TKJD5W](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8TKJD5W)

Share this link with all of your participants if viewing today’s webinar as a group.

Be sure to include your contact information and Florida nursing license number.

FHA will report 1.0 credit hour to CE Broker and a certificate will be sent via e-mail.

We would appreciate your feedback even if you are not applying for CEUs!!

Web participants can stay logged in as the webinar closes to be redirected to the online survey (the link will also be provided in a follow up e-mail).
THANK YOU!
WHYB Questions and Information –

407-841-6230

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