Resident Transfer Flow Chart

**FIGURE 1** Transfer to and from: Bed to Chair, Chair to Toilet, Chair to Chair, or Car to Chair

Can patient bear weight?

- Fully
- Partially

Is the patient cooperative?

- Yes
- No

Use full body sling lift and 2 caregivers.

Is the patient cooperative?

- Yes
- No

Does the patient have upper extremity strength?

- Yes
- No

Seated transfer aid; may use gait/transfer belt until the patient is proficient in completing transfer independently.

Caregiver assistance not needed; stand by for safety as needed.

Stand and pivot technique using a gait/transfer belt
(1 caregiver) -or- powered standing assist lift
(1 caregiver)

- For seated transfer aid, must have chair with arms that recess or are removable.
- For full body sling lift, select a lift that was specifically designed to access a patient from the car (if the car is the starting or ending destination).
- If partial weight bearing, transfer toward stronger side.
- Toileting slings are available for toileting.
- Bathing mesh slings are available for bathing.


**FIGURE 2** Lateral Transfer to and from: Bed to Stretcher, Trolley

Can patient assist?

- Partially Able
- Not At All Able

Caregiver assistance not needed; stand by for safety as needed.

If patient is <100 pounds:
Use a lateral sliding aid and 2 caregivers.

If patient is 100-200 pounds:
Use a lateral sliding aid -or- a friction reducing device and 2 caregivers.

If patient is >200 pounds: Use a lateral sliding aid and 3 caregivers -or- a friction-reducing device or lateral transfer device and 2 caregivers -or- a mechanical lateral transfer device.

- Surfaces should be even for lateral patient moves.
- For patients with Stage III or IV pressure ulcers, care must be taken to avoid shearing force.


(Continued...)
FIGURE 3 Transfer to and from: Chair to Stretcher

- Is the patient cooperative?
  - No: Use full-body sling lift and 2 or more caregivers.
  - Yes:
    - Can the patient bear weight?
      - Fully: Caregiver assistance not needed; stand by for safety as needed.
      - No: Use full-body sling lift and 2 or more caregivers.

- Comments:
  - High/low exam tables and stretchers would be ideal.


FIGURE 4 Reposition in Bed: Side-to-Side, Up in Bed

- Can Patient assist?
  - Fully: Caregiver assistance not needed; patient may/may not use positioning aid.
  - Partially Able:
    - Encourage patient to assist using a positioning aid or cues.
    - If patient is >200 pounds: Use a friction-reducing device and at least 3 caregivers.
    - If patient is <200 pounds: Use a friction-reducing device and 2-3 caregivers.

- Use full-body sling lift, or friction-reducing device and 2 or more caregivers.

- This is not a one person task - DO NOT PULL FROM HEAD OF BED.
- When pulling a patient up in bed, the bed should be flat or Trendelenburg position to aid in gravity, with the side rail down.
- For patient with Stage III or IV pressure ulcers, care should be taken to avoid shearing force.
- The height of the bed should be appropriate for staff safety (at the elbows).
- If the patient can assist when repositioning "up in bed", ask the patient to flex the knees and push on the count of three.