

Instructions for the use of Lisclare transfer sheets and slide sheets

Before using a sheet, a complete assessment by an appropriately qualified person should be carried out. The assessment should include, the user, the patient, the task and the environment in which the sheet is to be used.

Please follow your local hospital patient handling guidelines.

If in doubt always consult your Hospital health and safety or Patient Moving and Handling Adviser before use.

Not for Lifting – Lisclare slide sheets are not intended for lifting. All patient repositioning manoeuvres should be without lifting.

Inspect before use – slide sheets should always be inspected prior to use for signs of wear-and-tear and replaced if necessary. Fabric, thread and stitch wear and tear will take place over time and this will reduce the slide sheet capacity.

Slip Hazard – Slide sheets should never be left on the floor as they will create a slip hazard.

Inclined Operating Table Hazard – a potential hazard will exist if the operating table is inclined and the transfer sheet or slide sheet is retained beneath the patient and there is a risk the patient will slide off the operating table. Risk analysis should consider this possibility if your sheets are used in theatres.

Tissue Viability Considerations – Lisclare slide sheets do not present a tissue viability hazard in normal use with healthy patients. Extra care should however be taken when using slide sheets with vulnerable patients who may be at risk of tissue viability issues. On these patients, the hemmed slide sheet sides or webbing handles may increase the risk of injury from pressure associated injuries, frictional shearing or abrasion damage. You can reduce these risks by adopting correct patient handling techniques and by correct slide sheet choice. In these circumstances, you may consider choosing a wider bariatric sheet, a sheet without side handles, or a patient specific slide sheet that does not have hemming.

Basic Slide Sheet Use

Turning a patient in bed

Assess the patient to determine the correct size slide sheet(s) to use. Using an approved manual handling technique pass the slide sheet(s) beneath the patient. To turn the patient either towards or away from you take the top slide sheet and gently pull, the patient will roll in the direction required.

Moving a patient up and down the bed

Assess the patient to determine the correct size slide sheet(s) to use. Using an approved manual handling technique pass the slide sheet(s) beneath the patient. The patient can now be guided in the desired direction by pulling the sheet. Once patient movement has been

achieved the slide sheet(s) can be withdrawn by either using a rolling technique or pulled out from beneath the patient by working the sheet(s) one face against the other until withdrawn.

Handles and extension straps to maintain correct posture

Slide sheets with handles are available to reduce overreaching and assist in the maintenance of correct posture during patient repositioning. Extension straps are also available.

Attach the extension handle directly to the slide sheet by looping through and around slide sheet edge handle. An extension can place increased load on the slide sheet perimeter handle and carers should be careful when inspecting the slide sheet for wear and tear prior to use.

Moving a patient from bed to chair

Assess the patient to determine the correct size slide sheet(s) to use. Position the patient in the centre with the sheet(s) set to move laterally. Lower the bed so that both chair and bed at the same level. Place a transfer board under the edge of the sliding sheet(s) and onto the chair. Making sure the chair is tight to the bed transfer you patient across.

Swivel a patient around whilst sitting

Place the slide sheets in the centre of the bed, under the patient using an approved manual handling technique. Gently holding the ankles of the patient slowly turn the legs around so that they are to the side of the bed. Remove the slide sheet(s) using an appropriate manual handling technique.

Laundering & Cleaning

Patient Specific slide sheets – do not launder

Lightly soiled sheets may be wiped clean using a dilute chlorine based solution and a good quality sterilisation fluid.

Re-usable slide sheets

All Lisclare emotion slide sheets can be laundered. Please follow HSG(95)18, standard hospital laundry guidelines. The use of bleaching agents should be avoided. 80° C is the maximum recommended washing temperature. Drip dry, (a low temperature tumble dry may be used. Tumble dried sheets may develop a wrinkled appearance that should not affect performance). Sheets can be wiped clean using a dilute chlorine based solution and a good quality sterilisation fluid.