

Bariatric Equipment Safety Checklist

James A. Haley VA Hospital

HOSPITAL BED

- ☐ Weight limit _____ lbs.
- ☐ Side rail support _____ lbs.
- ☐ Bed Scale?
Yes _____ if yes, weight limit _____ lbs.
No _____
- ☐ Width of bed _____ inches.
- ☐ Bed adjustable for patient height?
Yes _____ No _____
- ☐ Mattress type:
Pressure relief _____
Pressure reduction _____ Alternating _____
Rotational _____
- ☐ Other _____

WHEELCHAIR

- ☐ Weight limit _____ lbs.
- ☐ Width _____ inches
- ☐ Seat height _____ inches
- ☐ Handle width _____ inches
- ☐ Powered? Yes _____ No _____

STRETCHER

- ☐ Weight limit _____ lbs.
- ☐ Width _____ inches
- ☐ Length _____ inches
- ☐ Side rail support _____ lbs.
- ☐ Powered? Yes _____ No _____

BEDSIDE COMMODE/SHOWER CHAIR

- ☐ Weight limit _____ lbs.
- ☐ Seat width _____ inches
- ☐ Adjustable height? Yes _____ No _____

SCALES

- ☐ Weight limit _____ lbs.
- ☐ Width _____ inches

WALKER

- ☐ Weight limit _____ lbs.
- ☐ Width _____ inches

Source: Bariatric Toolkit, Patient Safety Center, VISN8, James A. Haley VA Hospital, Tampa, FL, August 2007.

Assessment Criteria and Care Plan for Safe Patient Handling and Movement

James A. Haley VA Hospital, Tampa, FL

I. Patient's Level of Assistance:

- _____ Independent — Patient performs task safely, with or without staff assistance, with or without assistive devices.
- _____ Partial Assist — Patient requires no more help than stand-by, cueing, or coaxing, or caregiver is required to lift no more than 35 lbs. of a patient's weight.
- _____ Dependent — Patient requires nurse to lift more than 35 lbs. of the patient's weight, or is unpredictable in the amount of assistance offered. In this case assistive devices should be used.

An assessment should be made prior to each task if the patient has varying level of ability to assist due to medical reasons, fatigue, medications, etc. When in doubt, assume the patient cannot assist with the transfer/repositioning.

II. Weight-Bearing Capability

- _____ Full
- _____ Partial
- _____ None

III. Bi-Lateral Upper Extremity Strength

- _____ Yes
- _____ No

IV. Patient's level of cooperation and comprehension:

- _____ Cooperative — may need prompting; able to follow simple commands.
- _____ Unpredictable or varies (patient whose behavior changes frequently should be considered as "unpredictable"), not cooperative, or unable to follow simple commands.

V. Weight: _____ Height: _____

Body Mass Index (BMI) [needed if patient's weight is over 300]¹: _____

If BMI exceeds 50, institute Bariatric Algorithms

The presence of the following conditions are likely to affect the transfer/repositioning process and should be considered when identifying equipment and technique needed to move the patient.

VI. Check applicable conditions likely to affect transfer/repositioning techniques.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| _____ Hip/Knee Replacements | _____ Respiratory/Cardiac Compromise | _____ Fractures |
| _____ History of Falls | _____ Wounds Affecting Transfer/Positioning | _____ Splints/Traction |
| _____ Paralysis/Paresis | _____ Amputation | _____ Severe Osteoporosis |
| _____ Unstable Spine | _____ Urinary/Fecal Stoma | _____ Severe Pain/Discomfort |
| _____ Severe Edema | _____ Contractures/Spasms | _____ Postural Hypotension |
| _____ Very Fragile Skin | _____ Tubes (IV, Chest, etc.) | |

Comments: _____

VII. Care Plan:			
Algorithm	Task	Equipment/Assistive Device	# Staff
1	Transfer To and From: Bed to Chair, Chair To Toilet, Chair to Chair, or Car to Chair		
2	Lateral Transfer To and From: Bed to Stretcher, Trolley		
3	Transfer To and From: Chair to Stretcher, or Chair to Exam Table		
4	Reposition in Bed: Side-to-Side, Up in Bed		
5	Reposition in Chair: Wheelchair and Dependency Chair		
6	Transfer Patient Up from the Floor		
Bariatric 1	Bariatric Transfer To and From: Bed to Chair, Chair to Toilet, or Chair to Chair		
Bariatric 2	Bariatric Lateral Transfer To and From: Bed to Stretcher or Trolley		
Bariatric 3	Bariatric Reposition in Bed: Side-to-Side, Up in Bed		
Bariatric 4	Bariatric Reposition in Chair: Wheelchair, Chair or Dependency Chair		
Bariatric 5	Patient Handling Tasks Requiring Access to Body Parts (Limb, Abdominal Mass, Gluteal Area)		
Bariatric 6	Bariatric Transporting (Stretcher)		
Bariatric 7	Bariatric Toileting Tasks		

Sling Type: Seated _____ Seated (Amputation) _____ Standing _____ Supine _____ Ambulation _____ Limb Support _____

Sling Size: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

¹If patient's weight is over 300 pounds, the BMI is needed. For Online BMI table and calculator, see: www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/obesity/bmi_tbl.htm.

Source: Bariatric Toolkit, Patient Safety Center, VISN8, James A. Haley VA Hospital, Tampa, FL; August 2007.