



Safe Work Procedure (SWP)

Name of Task: Bath Stretcher/Trolley		
Performed by		
Position/Job: RN, LPN, HCA, OT, PT	Department/Unit: Nursing Units, Prime, areas providing patient, resident, client care	
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Hazards:

This task may expose workers to musculoskeletal injury (MSI) risks. Signs and symptoms include pain, burning, numbness, tingling, swelling, loss of movement or strength in a body part.

Equipment:

- Arjo[™] Miranti Bath Stretcher lift capacity 160 kg (350 lbs)
- Arjo[™] Bolero Bath Stretcher lift capacity 150 kg. (330 lbs)
- Safety Straps
- 3 Arjo[™] slider sheets or a mechanical lift may be required

Education and training prerequisites: e.g. instructions or other SWPs→→	Safe Patient Handling and Movement Program Operational Procedures and related SWP's
Training and Proficiency: ☐ Read Procedure and Sign	□ Demonstrated Competency
Purpose:	

or

To reduce the potential for injuries to patients/residents/clients and staff during bathing.

Policy:

- Documentation in the patient/resident's health record(s) shall be completed according to program or unit protocol. All atypical or unusual observations and/or patient/resident responses must be documented.
- Chest belt safety straps must be used when patient/resident is using the bath stretcher. If required, use the leg strap as well.
- Wheel brakes must be applied when patient/resident is being transferred to and from the stretcher.
- All patients/residents are transferred to and from the stretcher and transported to and from the tub
 room with two staff in attendance. More than two staff should be used with difficult transfers.

Steps to be taken to complete task safely: (clear description in order of steps to follow to safely perform the task. If required add attach an additional form to list all steps) Include do's and don'ts				
1	Fasten pillow on the appropriate end of stretcher depending on which side of the bed the transfer is most convenient.			
2	Ensure the safety belts are attached to the bath stretcher. The belts must be fitted onto the stretcher before the hook wire is attached (in models equipped with a powered backrest and hookwire).			
3	Fasten the hookwire (if applicable) onto the portion of the stretcher that will function as a backrest.			
4	Ensure the bed is at the appropriate working height for staff and that the bed brakes are on.			
5	Line the stretcher up to ensure that once transferred, the patient/resident's buttocks will be centred.			
6	To provide a hip block and to prevent the patient/resident from sliding down the stretcher, position the thigh support cushion if one is available for that stretcher. The cushion should be against the patient/resident's buttocks whenever possible.			

	For bath stretcher transfer not requiring the use of sliders or mechanical lift Note: The patient must be able to roll and achieve adequate position with minimal assistance as required.		
7	Ensure that the bed rail(s) on the opposite side to the tub stretcher is up.		
8	Ask the patient/resident to roll onto their side and provide minimal assistance as required.		
9	Move the stretcher over the bed and as close as possible to the patient/resident. Lower until it rests firmly on the bed. If there is a hookwire, it will be slack.		
10	Activate the stretcher brakes.		
11	Assist the patient/resident in rolling over onto the stretcher, being sure to use proper body mechanics and providing only minimal assistance.		
12	Apply the chest safety belt (mandatory). If required use the leg strap as well.		
13	Lower the security grip and side guard if one is present, or the handle bar nearest to the patient's feet on the older Bolero model.		
14	Should the patient/resident desire, staff can raise the backrest to a comfortable position using the battery operated controls or the latch system. (Depending on the stretcher model).		
15	Slightly raise the stretcher.		
16	Release the stretcher brakes and move it away from the bed.		
17	Ensure the stretcher is at a comfortable height for the staff members to transport the patient/resident.		
18	One staff member should push using the transport handles at the end of the stretcher and one staff member should stand on the side opposite the controls to help guide the stretcher and ensure patient/resident safety.		
19	Once in the tub room, staff may need to adjust the stretcher height to ensure that the patient/resident's legs will clear the tub.		
20	Position the stretcher so that the patient/resident is facing the tub. When in position over the tub, apply the brakes.		
21	Raise the tub to a comfortable working height and lower the stretcher until it is resting on the bottom of the tub.		
22	On models equipped with a hookwire, lower the backrest to a comfortable position for the patient/resident.		
23	Bathe the patient/resident.		
24	After bathing, let the water run out of the bath. Raise the backrest if the model has a hookwire.		
25	Let the resident put their hands on the security grip or handle bar if they are able. Lower the bath to the lowest position. Shower the resident.		
26	Dry the patient/resident, as well as the underside of the stretcher, to prevent water from dripping onto the floor prior to moving the bath stretcher away from the bath.		
27	Raise the stretcher.		

28	Reverse the above sequence to transfer the patient/resident back to bed, ensuring the stretcher is flat for the lateral transfer.	
29	Any shared equipment should be cleaned between patients using a facility approved disinfectant. Refer to policy #90.00.040 in the DLC Infection Control Manual on the shared drive: Cleaning of Non-Critical Re-useable Items.	
30	Clean Tub following the Safe Work Procedure. Ensure that chemical resistant gloves and goggles are used.	
	For bath trolley/stretcher transfers requiring the use of sliders/mechanical lift	
Note: N	o lubricants such as soap should be used to ease transfer to a bath trolley.	
is a late from tw transfer	taff must use an Arjo™ slider rather than a Deer Lodge Quilted Slider if a slider is required as this transfer. If the patient cannot roll onto the stretcher or requires more than minimal assistance to staff a slider must be used to move from bed to stretcher. A mechanical lift can also be used to patients/residents who are challenging to move with a slider, keeping in mind the weight on on the bath stretcher.	
7	Position two ArjoTM sliders underneath the patient/resident. (Refer to Safe Work Procedure: Arjo™ sliders on the shared drive.) A mechanical lift can also be used.	
8	Ensure the bed rail is up on the side opposite the stretcher.	
9	Move the stretcher over the bed and as close as possible to the patient/resident. Lower until it rests firmly on the bed. The hookwire will be slack if one is present.	
10	Activate the stretcher brakes.	
11	Position the third slider on top of the bath stretcher to assist with the lateral transfer.	
12	A minimum of two staff members stand in a walking stance along the outside edge of the stretcher to assist with the lateral transfer (on the same side). Staff should grasp the handles of the top slider underneath the patient/resident. On a count of three, staff weight shifts from their front leg to their back leg and pull the patient/resident onto the stretcher.	
	Note: If long handle straps (ArjoTM slider accessory) are available, attach to the sliders and use to grasp and pull slider and patient/resident onto the stretcher.	
13	After completion of the lateral transfer, sliders must be removed.	
14	Lower the security grip and side guard if one is present, or the handle bar nearest to the patient/resident's feet on the older Bolero model.	
15	Apply the chest safety belt (mandatory). If required use the leg strap as well.	
16	Should the patient/resident desire, raise the backrest to a comfortable position using the battery operated controls or the latch system. (Depending on the stretcher model).	
17	Slightly raise the stretcher.	
18	Release the brakes and move the stretcher away from the bed.	
19	Ensure the stretcher is at a comfortable height for the staff members to transport the patient.	
20	One staff member should push using the transport handles at the end of the stretcher and one staff member should stand on the side of the side guard to help guide the stretcher and ensure resident safety.	
21	Once in the tub room, you may need to adjust the stretcher height to ensure that the patient/resident's legs will clear the tub.	

22	Position the stretcher so that the patient/resident is facing the tub. When in position over the tub, apply the brakes.			
23	Raise the tub to a comfortable height and lower the stretcher until it is resting on the bottom of the tub			
24	Lower the backrest to a comfortable position for the patient/resident if the stretcher has a hookwire.			
25	Bathe the patient/resident.			
26	After bathing, let the water run out of the bath. Raise the backrest if the model has a hookwire.			
27	Let the resident put their hands on the security grip if they are able. Lower the bath to its lowest position. Shower the resident.			
28	Dry the patient/resident, as well as the underside of the stretcher, to prevent water from dripping onto the floor prior to moving the bath stretcher away from the bath.			
29	Raise the stretcher and flatten for the lateral transfer.			
30	Reverse the above sequence using and ArjoTM slider/mechanical lift to transfer the patient/resident back to bed OR rolling the patient off of the stretcher (if only minimal assistance is required).			
31	Any shared equipment should be cleaned between patients using a facility approved disinfectant. Refer to policy #90.00.040 in the DLC Infection Control Manual on the shared drive: Cleaning of Non-Critical Re-useable Items			
32	Clean Tub following the Safe Work Procedure. Ensure that chemical resistant gloves and goggles are used.			
Responsibilities, Completion and Review				
Performs all duties in accordance with established health and safety regulations/guidelines, policies and procedures (e.g. utilizing personal, protective equipment as per safe work procedures). Notifies their Manager or their designates (i.e. supervisors) of all occurrences, injuries illnesses or safety and health concerns which are likely to harm themselves, their co-workers, or any others who enter the premises.				
	eleted By:	Date Completed:		
Cara Windle		June 2010		
Last Reviewed by and date: Replaces DLC Policy – Bath Stretcher Dec 2007		Note: This task will be monitored periodically to ensure compliance and effectiveness.		
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