

# Patient Lift



**PURPOSE:** To safely transfer an individual, who is unable to assist, from a bed to chair/wheelchair and back using a mechanical lift.

**EQUIPMENT:**

- Patient Lifter
- Hammock style sling with divided leg
- Wheelchair

**ACTION:**

1. Arrange all items for smooth transfer
2. Individual should be in the center of the bed
3. Roll individual on to their side facing away from you.
4. Place sling folded lengthwise halfway under individual so the cutout is just above the tailbone.
5. Place long tails stretching out towards the knees.
6. Roll the individual back towards you. Pull the folded remainder of the sling out from the far side.
7. Bring the tail next to the right leg under the thigh and bring it up between the legs.
8. Repeat the process on the left leg so that both tails are now located between the legs.
9. Move the lifter into position with the cradle bar positioned directly over the individual's chest.
10. Move the arm of the lift to spread the legs of the lift wider for more stability.
11. Take the tail that is under the right leg up and across and hook the loop to the cradle on the left side. There are three loops on the tail, color coded black, purple and green. Make a note of which color you have placed on the loop.
12. Take the tail from the left leg and cross it over and hook the loop to the right side of the cradle. Be sure to use the same color loop as you did for the right leg.

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# Patient Lift *continued*



- ACTION:**
13. This will give you a finished look of an X.
  14. Individual's arms may be crossed on their chest for transfer.
  15. Close valve on the hydraulic pump of the lift by turning the lever clock-wise. and use a pumping motion on the handle to gradually lift the individual off of bed.
  16. Once the individual is totally suspended, carefully back the lift out and roll it toward the chair. The chair should fit between the legs of the lift.
  17. After individual is positioned over chair, slowly turn valve to left to lower individual to chair. Help to guide the individual into a good upright position as their weight is being lowered.
  18. Detach the loops from the cradle and let the tails rest in the person's lap. Move lifter away.

## **To return the individual to the bed:**

1. Check that sling is still in good position.
2. Move lifter into place over the individual's chair with legs spread for stability.
3. Using the criss-cross method, reattach the loops to the cradle of the lift.
4. Close valve on hydraulic pump by turning it to the right.
5. Pump on the handle to elevate the individual off the chair. Raise them high enough to clear the height of the bed they will be returning to.
6. Back the lift up and move the individual to a position elevated over bed so that their head is close to the top of the bed.
7. Open the valve slowly, by turning to the left, and gently ease individual back onto the bed.
8. Remove loops from cradle and back lift away.
9. Turn individual away from you so that you can fold sling up under their back.
10. Roll the individual back to the other side and pull sling out.
11. Position the individual for comfort.