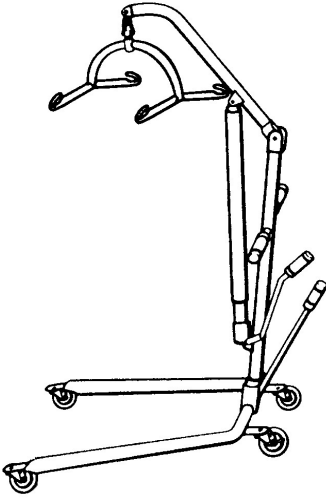


PATIENT LIFTERS



PURPOSE: Patient lifts are designed for a single user to lift and/or transfer an individual. These devices utilize hydraulics as a way to maximize lifting potential and minimize user effort. Contact your physician and/or therapist for lifting and transferring techniques. Always follow their instructions explicitly.

TYPES: There are many different models and types of patient lifts. They vary in their level of automation, weight capacities, and portability. The basic and most commonly used type is the manual hydraulic lifter. These units are usually on wheels and can be used throughout the facility for a variety of transfers. There are also models that have varying amounts of electrical power. There are full-electric models and models that are permanently mounted in the room. You can also purchase units that have built-in weight scales.

There are also many different types of slings for different types of transfers.

USE: Patient lifts, as we stated above, have many uses. Medical equipment rental companies cannot instruct the user on every possible transferring or lifting method. Your medical equipment provider will instruct the user(s) to safely attach the prescribed sling and the safe operation of the lift. Your physician and/or therapist must assist you in a transferring and/or lifting method that best meets your needs. If your unit has a built-in scale, always calibrate scale before the individual is placed in the sling.

Never exceed the weight capacity of the patient lifter. Always close hydraulic valve before attaching to the individual. Attach the sling to the individual. Transport lifter to a position that places the weight of the individual in the center of the lift. Lock wheels if applicable. Attach sling to hooks on lifter. Raise lift and watch closely as individual starts to rise. Make sure all connections are in place prior to removing support surface from under individual. Move patient to designated place, making sure it is secure and will not move or shift when placing individuals. Lower the individual slowly.

MAINTENANCE: Most patient lifters have a hydraulic chamber that must always be intact. If you notice any leakage, contact your medical equipment rental company immediately and discontinue use. Your patient lifter must be kept clean and free from dirt and oil or grease. Most slings can be machine-washed. It is best to place them inside a pillowcase or laundry bag when washing. If you notice a tear or any fraying parts of the sling, immediately discontinue use and notify your medical equipment rental company.