

Practitioner Manual for Transfer Equipment



**A Manual devised by the SWEP Clinical Advisory Team
to assist SWEP registered practitioners**



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ILS, Independent Living Specialists

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Background

The State-wide Equipment Program (SWEP) Clinical Advisors have developed this resource manual to:

- Provide useful information for practitioners
- Give links to evidence-based practices
- Recommend assessments to assist with identifying successful transfer equipment solutions
- Outline potential risks to consider related to the consumer, support people and the environment
- Describe relevant items and provide functional implications and considerations for use.

Guidelines and application process

SWEP offers eligible practitioners a registration and credentialing process, whereby credentialing levels are assigned for specific areas of practice according to *The Standard*. For full details on all available credentialing pathways please refer to relevant standard and information found below.

The Standards: <https://swep.bhs.org.au/the-standard.php>

Process for registration and credentialing: <https://swep.bhs.org.au/registration-and-credentialing.php>

SWEP also provides an online application portal to collect and manage requests for AT items. This is integrated with the registration and credentialing framework to match AT Practitioner level with consumer and item complexity and establish urgency of consumer need.

Please refer to the funding body for which your consumer is eligible to determine the relevant guidelines for what types of AT items will be considered for funding, and whether or not the SWEP portal should be used to submit an application.

<https://swep.bhs.org.au/programs-services.php>

Definitions

Transfer:

A transfer in the context of this manual is defined as a person moving from one position to another - either independently or with assistance of a person or an aid.

Hoist:

Is an assistive electrical battery-operated device that allows consumers with limited mobility to be lifted vertically and moved from one place to another. Hoists can be mobile on the floor with castors, ceiling or wall mounted with tracks.

Gantry hoist systems are hoists that can be erected and dismantled. They can be temporary; can be used in short-term situations or when other types of hoists are unsuitable.

All Hoists require a compatible sling and can have various attachment clip types that need to be compatible with the hoist being used. See below for further information.

Products Supplied

Mobile Floor Hoists:

- Floor or mobile hoists are battery operated lifting machines that can be moved on castors from one transfer area to another.
- They provide flexibility with the type of transfer to be completed and also being able to move the hoist from one room to another.
- Consider environmental conditions such as floor coverings and surfaces, restricted circulation space that can increase manual handling risks and be assessed as inappropriate for some home environments
- The sling required for a mobile floor hoist depends upon the person's function and requires trial and assessment.

Ceiling Hoists:

There are two main types of ceiling hoists:

- Fixed ceiling hoists use an overhead motor that operates on tracks installed permanently on the ceiling of a room. The machine can be either fixed to one track or a combination of tracks can be used. For example, an "H Track" system also known as an "XY track" system allows the occupant within the sling to access a larger area within a room
- Portable ceiling hoists also require a permanent ceiling tracking system, but the hoist motor can be removed from one track and attached to another in

another room.

- The tracking system for ceiling hoists are permanently fixed to the ceiling joists.
- Ceiling hoists provide a lift in a vertical direction up, then move in a horizontal direction on the track, and then a vertical movement to lower the person onto a seat/toilet or bed.
- The hoist motor is controlled by a hand-held control to raise and lower the person. There is an emergency switch on all machines in case the hand-held control malfunctions.

Wall mounted hoists

- Are available for timber or steel stud walls.
- These can be considered when the ceiling is not structurally sound or suitable. For hollow core brick and block walls chemical anchors are recommended for extra support. Even though the support brackets are attached to the wall, the tracking system can still run across the room under (but not attached to) the ceiling. Alternatively, the wall mounted hoist mast itself can be mounted to the wall and the boom and spreader bar span out from the wall.
- The manual handling demands, and circulation space required during use of a ceiling hoist, as compared to a floor hoist, are both less- but this depends upon the individual transfer needs.
- The sling type/material (solid material or mesh) required for a ceiling hoist depends upon the person's function and requires trial and assessment.

Standing Hoists:

- Are designed to assist people from a sitting to a standing position for transfers.
- Are only appropriate for people who are able to sit up independently and who are able to support their own weight whilst in a standing position.
- Are similar to a mobile floor hoist as they are portable-can be moved from one area to another.
- Require a large circulation space and manual handling risks due to environmental conditions, such as floor coverings, may eliminate their appropriate prescription.
- Standing hoists use a single band sling positioned around the patient's back and fitting under their arms. A Velcro front attachment is secured across the persons chest. A calf strap is clipped around the back of the persons calves while the knees are braced against a padded knee pad.

Manual Transporters:

- A transporter is designed to transport an occupant from one seated position to another seated position. The occupant needs to be able to weight bear through lower legs, knees are braced against a front knee pad and hands grip a front cross bar. Two paddles can be folded down behind the occupant for them to sit while the transfer occurs, the occupant is required to stand while the seat paddles behind them are folded away to allow them to lower down into the new seat.

Bath Hoists:

- A bath hoist is a battery powered lift chair that assists with lowering a person into a bath and then raises them up again to bath rim level.
- The person must be able to transfer onto the bath hoist safely prior to being lowered into the bath.
- Safety considerations such as slipping off the bath hoist whilst lowering into the bath must be assessed prior to prescription.

Slings:

- Slings are a material device used in conjunction with a hoist, to assist in safely transferring a person.
- There are many styles of slings including padded, mesh, fabric and parasilk 'in situ' slings that can remain under the person between transfers.
- Size and type of sling depends on the purpose of consumers function, the transfer, weight, skin integrity and muscle control.
- Specialized slings are available and include toileting or hygiene slings, amputee slings, slings with head support
- and disposable slings. Slings are person specific and may require customization.

Recommended Assessments and Requirements

The following assessments and resources can be used as part of the evaluation of the person's transfer skills:

1. Home assessment

A home visit is essential when prescribing all transfer equipment:

- A trial of prescribed equipment should be conducted successfully in the environment where the equipment will be used. If this is not possible a trial of similar equipment is required.
- A detailed outline/care plan on recommended techniques during use and care of the prescribed equipment is required to be provided to the person or support person by the therapist on completion of the home visit and/or trial in the home.

- The home assessment must be conducted with the person and all appropriate support person/s present.
- Routines and recommendations on use of the equipment to be discussed and documented in collaboration with the consumer and care providers.
- A practical demonstration in the use of the equipment is recommended to ensure the person and the support person demonstrate their understanding of and ability to use the equipment safely.
- The prescribing therapist must ensure safe use of equipment prior to prescription. For ceiling hoists this is not always possible and may be completed post installation.

2. Issues that need to be assessed during the home assessment include:

- The compatibility of all equipment in the home - for example: bed, hoist, sling, mobile shower transporter, wheelchair.
- The height of the transfer surfaces. For example, wheelchair to bed using a slide-board
- The circulation space for the equipment to be used
- Consider under bed clearance for mobile hoist base.
- The flooring in the home - including the coverings and the condition of the flooring
- The weight tolerances of the flooring - in consideration of the weight of the person, hoist, care providers and equipment
- The ability to move the equipment safely in all areas required in the home
- The appropriate space for storage and charging of the device
- The home structure being able to withstand the equipment - especially in the prescription of ceiling hoists - refer to below
- The hoist is to be used only for transferring and **not** transporting the person

Considerations for Practitioners/Equipment

1. Question: Is it best practice for 1 person or 2 people to be present to assist with a sling/hoist transfer?

Answer:

It is not a legal requirement for two people to hoist a patient. However, it is a grey area that has been strongly debated.

Some organisations insist on a 2-person lift. It is best to check the policy and procedures within your organisation and follow their guidelines.

WorkSafe Victoria recommends two handlers when using an electric sling hoist. In an ideal world this is the safest option, however this is not always practical for home-based circumstances where only one carer is available at any one time, or the consumer is self-hoisting. In these situations, it is important that a thorough risk assessment is completed, taking into consideration consumer factors, environmental, equipment (including ceiling hoist vs mobile floor hoist), task requirements, staffing etc. and that the carer and consumer receive adequate and appropriate manual handling training (tailored to their needs) to reduce the risk of injury. A ratio of 1:1, 1:2 or even 1:3 may sometimes be recommended for consumers who require assistance.

2. Consumer details

Safe hoisting and the number of people that should assist with hoisting depends on the consumer's diagnosis/prognosis, weight, trunk/core strength, balance, upper limb ability and manual dexterity.

Consumers with good upper limb strength and trunk stability, and with access to a suitable single-user hoist system, may be able to transfer independently. Single-user hoist systems are usually fully automated ceiling track hoists - a variety of components can be included to enable vertical lifting and horizontal movement from room to room along the tracking.

Person Specific

- The person's ability to transfer safely.
- The person's health being at risk during current transfer techniques - including anxiety and skin integrity.
- The current transfer techniques being used by carers are unsafe to the person or pose a risk of injury to the carer.
- The equipment is required to maintain the consumer's level of independence in the home.
- The person's weight must be assessed as appropriate for the prescribed equipment.
- An assessment and trial of the equipment (with the user) must be completed and documented to ensure the equipment is appropriate for the user and the user is accepting of the equipment
- The person's prognosis and future expected care requirements
- The person's weight and expected changes in the future

Carer/support person specific

The appropriate number of carers must be available to use the equipment during each transfer - as per WorkSafe OH&S guidelines for transferring people safely

- The carer has been trained and observed using the transfer equipment
- The carer/support person is able to use the equipment safely
- The carer understands the health and safety risks of using the equipment

- The carer is physically able and willing to use the prescribed equipment when assisting with all transfers
- The carer has agreed to follow an outline of use of the transfer equipment, as provided by the prescribing therapist
- The carer is knowledgeable on the set-up, maintenance and troubleshooting of the equipment if it malfunctions

Equipment Specific

- A second sling may be required. For example - for hygiene purposes or different transfers
 - Ceiling hoists are generally considered to have less manual handling risks than mobile floor hoists
 - Secondary ceiling hoist tracks with a portable ceiling hoist system may increase the ability to transfer in more than one room
- The maximum weight capacity of the prescribed equipment ***must be known*** and checked against the weight of the occupant

3. Trialling

Trialling is crucial to check the following components:

- The sling is the optimum size/fit for the person.
- The mobile/ceiling hoist has adequate clearance over the bed, wheelchair, or recliner chair arm rests when the selected sling is in place.
- The door width is wide enough to accommodate the entry/exit of the mobile hoist.
- The type of flooring (timber/carpet) is smooth enough for the hoist to be turned once in the room.
- There is sufficient clearance under the bed to accommodate a mobile/sling hoist, base, and castors.
- There is sufficient circulation space to maneuver the hoist safely within the environment where it is to be used.

4. Training

Training the carers and consumer in the use of the particular hoist and sling to be used is imperative. Attention should be paid to the fitting of the sling and the safe hoisting process. Photographs and/or videos can be useful when there are carers involved who may not be familiar with the consumer's AT or routine.

5. Useful references:

<https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/health-and-safety-portal/safety-by-industry/health-and-community-services/safe-moving-of-consumer>

https://content-v2.api.worksafe.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-06/ISBN-Transferring-people-from-beds-and-chairs-2011-05_0.pdf

<https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/safe-use-portable-patient-handling-ceiling-hoists-and-hoist-hooks>

<https://content-v2.api.worksafe.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-06/ISBN-Transferring-people-safely-handbook-2009-07.pdf>

<https://content.api.worksafe.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-02/ISBN-Compliance-code-hazardous-manual-handling-2019-12.pdf>

6. Structural Considerations for Ceiling and Wall Hoists:

- The structural environment has to be considered when prescribing a ceiling hoist and tracking.
- Ceiling or wall- mounted hoist systems must have adequate structure within the ceiling and walls to support them.
- Trusses, roof, ceiling and wall frameworks may require reinforcing to support the potential load.
- A consultation with a building surveyor and/or Archicentre www.archicentreaustralia.com.au is recommended to ensure that the installation of the hoist **does not** compromise location of heating/cooling ducts, ceiling fans or sprinklers.
- The areas where such tracking is being installed should be initially inspected for suitability to erect beams that can be safely supported and easily accessed.

Consumer Characteristics That May Impact on the Application

1. Pressure area risk assessment:

- Waterlow scale
- Braden Scale (adult)
- Braden QD Scale (child)

2. Functional Assessments:

- Functional Independence Measure_(FIM)
- Barthel Index Scale

3. Cognitive Assessment:

- Standardised Mini- Mental State Examination (SMMSE) tool

4. Assessment of Weight bearing status:


- This assessment should be conducted to establish which type of transfer equipment is suitable for the person. For example, the person needs to fully weight-bear to use the standing hoist and if unable needs a full sling hoist.


- The WorkSafe - Victoria - Transferring People Safely: a handbook for workplaces outlines how to assess and provide assistance safely when assisting a person who has difficulties transferring.


<https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/resources/transferring-people-safely-handbook-workplaces>

The manual handling code of practice outlines acceptable manual handling practices in workplaces in Victoria. It is based on the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004.

Appendix 1: Product range and features

Assistive Technology	Information About Features	Functional Implications and Considerations
Hoists		
Mobile Hoist 	<p>Used to transfer a person who cannot weight bear.</p> <p>Fully suspends an occupant in a sling thereby eliminating the need for a carer to manually lift another person.</p> <p>Can have alternative spreader bar shape attached (such as a cradle that assists in tilting the occupant into a seated position) or a cross bar that 'opens up' the sling.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminates need for carers to lift. • One unit can be used in various locations. • Pushing hoist may cause manual handling issues for carers. • Some surfaces are easier to push a hoist over than others. • Consider any slope in floor. • Motor driven hoists are available. • Clear access is needed under a bath or bed/chair to be able to lift using a mobile hoist in this situation • Consider problems associated with lifting in confined spaces. • Needs to be stored where it does not become a tripping hazard.



<p>Standing Hoist</p> 	<p>A mobile hoist that assists a person to stand and supports them in a standing position.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only suitable for consumers who are able to partially weight bear. • The consumer is encouraged to use hands to grasp hoist handles to assist in the half standing posture. • If consumer has contractures extra care should be taken to avoid pain and injury. • Stand up Slings are similar to hygiene slings. They support the consumer around the trunk, and some have a Velcro trunk support across chest. • Some stand up slings have leg pieces with extra-long attachment loops to give extra support. These give extra support around the thighs. • Partial weight bearing may assist in bone strengthening.
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<p>Ceiling Hoists (Fixed) Hoist motor is fixed into tracking.</p> 	<p>Used to transfer a person who cannot weight bear.</p> <p>Motor is fixed to the tracking.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It fully suspends an occupant in a sling thereby eliminating the need for a carer to manually lift another person. • Occupant is lowered by a strap and spreader bar from the motor (less intrusive for some occupants) • More tracking may be required with a fixed motor hoist because continuous track is required to get the occupant from the lifting point to the lowering point. • Ability to use larger floor area to access baths, beds and spas • Can travel for a short span (i.e. bed to chair) or throughout a house to access a number of rooms • Pushing the occupant along a fixed overhead tracking may reduce manual handling for carer in comparison to a mobile hoist, impacting on energy conservation, Occupational Health and Safety and Manual Handling. • Horizontal travel may be powered to further reduce manual handling.
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Ceiling Hoists with Junctions or turntables	<p>A turntable is a circular junction that allows a number of straight or curved tracks to join and then change direction.</p> <p>It is part of the overall ceiling track system.</p> <p>The rotating mechanism of the turntable can be operated via the hoist's handheld controls or manually via a pull cord.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used in situations where the person needs to be lifted and transferred to a number of locations within a building. • May be used in situations where space does not allow the span required for a curved track.
Ceiling Hoists that require modifications through a doorway	<p>A ceiling hoist that is required to travel from room to room through a doorway</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This requires removing a section of the wall above the door. • Clear measurements are required by builder and hoist installer to ensure that clearance for the bracket, rail and hoist motor can travel through freely.
Wall Mounted Hoist Systems	<p>The mast of a wall-mounted hoist can be attached to the wall and the boom and spreader bar span across the room.</p> <p>An overhead track system sometimes requires the support brackets to be mounted to the wall.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consideration when the ceiling is not strong enough or suitable for an overhead tracking.
Manual Transporter	<p>A mobile transporter that requires the occupant to be able to push up from seated position to a weight bearing standing position while left and right seat supports are folded down to provide complete perch seat.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for consumers who can follow instruction and can push to a standing position and weight-bear. • Suitable for consumers who can grip the handlebars and support

	<p>The occupant uses the knee support to brace against until seated.</p> <p>The mobile transporter can move an occupant from one seated position to another seated position.</p>	<p>themselves for a short-term standing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The left and right fold down seat supports join together to become one seat. • The transporter has a smaller footprint than a standing mobile hoist for smaller environments. • The transporter is a lighter unit than a standing mobile hoist for the carer to push. • A larger uncluttered circulation space is required for use to ensure safe manual handling when using.
Multifunctional Hoists	<p>Hoists that can be a full body lift or a stand-up hoist.</p> <p>They can also be motorized.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to change the hoists' function results in use by more than one user. • May be used in a progressive illness.
Tracking		
Tracking (for Overhead Hoists) H or XY Configuration	<p>The tracking along which the hoist motor moves</p>	<p>Various configurations of tracking can be prescribed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight tracking (from A-B or along a corridor) • Recessed (track is sunk to be


		<p>level with the ceiling)</p> <p>‘H’ configuration’ (also known as XY shape). This tracking allows traverse and longitudinal travel within a room.</p>
Curved Tracking	Voyager Rail	<p>Functional Implications</p> <p>Curved track is used to span around internal or external corners or avoid fixtures such as lights.</p>
Curved track is used to span around internal or external corners or avoid fixtures such as lights.	<p>A large U-shaped piece of fabric.</p> <p>It provides full back support and divides at the top of the pelvis area into two sections that are fitted around each leg.</p> <p>Due to the sling material covering the occupant’s body access for toileting and changing may be difficult.</p> <p>Slings can be fitted in a sitting position.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports from shoulders to lumbar area. • This sling would not be chosen to lift a person from a lying position due to lack of head support. • Supporting the legs individually separates the legs, which may strain the hip joints and cause pain. • The leg supports can either be placed between the legs to support each leg separately or positioned to support the legs together. • Arms are normally kept inside the sling.

Bathing		
Bath Hoist 	<p>A bath hoist is placed on the base of a bath. It is usually battery operated via a hand control.</p> <p>It raises and lowers a seated person within the bath and some models have back recline</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assists a person who has difficulty getting into and out of the bath. When the seat is raised to be level with the bath rim the side flaps sit on the rim to enable a side transfer onto the seat.
Other Transfer Aids		
Transfer Belt 	<p>A transfer belt is a webbed belt that fits around a person's waist and (may) have grip handles around the outside of the belt for the attendant carer to hold and support the person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It assists the attendant carer to have a secure grip around the consumer's waist. To ensure a secure but not too tight fit, check that you can slide two fingers between the inside of the belt and the person's trunk. A transfer belt can be used in conjunction with a Pivot Turntable (if the person can weight bear through both limbs)

<p>Slide Board</p> 	<p>A flat smooth board that can form a bridge between two surfaces over which a person who is unable to weight bear can slide across.</p> <p>It can be used in conjunction with a Transfer Belt Assists a person to make a sideways slide movement from one surface</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (i.e.: bed/wheelchair) to another surface (e.g. Chair/commode) without the need to do a manual lift. • Can empower the consumer to be involved in the transfer by assisting the sideways slide movement with trunk, pelvis or upper limbs where possible.
<p>Slide Sheet</p> 	<p>A nylon sheet that can be used as a single sheet or folded over to create two surfaces that slide easily one over the other.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces manual handling by assisting attendant carers to turn a person lying flat on their back to a side position. • Can also be used to re-position a person up higher or lower in the bed.
<p>Pivot Turntable</p> 	<p>A Rotating Seat is comprised of two circular discs that rotate against each other.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The person sits on the top disc that can be padded for comfort. • It assists a person to make a ninety degree turn in a horizontal plane without trunk rotation. • It can be used on a car seat or a chair.

<p>Portable Motor</p> 	<p>Can be lifted off the tracking. (with trolley)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less tracking required if the motor is portable. It can be lifted down from the tracking and put on a trolley and wheeled to another span of tracking within the house. • Motors are suspended on the strap and are lowered with the occupant. • Some occupants may find this intrusive (motor closer to occupant's head) • Portable Motors may be used for travel or in temporary/rented accommodation
<p>Portable Hoist (on tracking gantry)</p> 	<p>A portable frame that can be assembled and dismantled for use in the short term.</p> <p>The frame suspends a hoist motor and spreader bar.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portable tracking on a gantry may be transported for use in multiple environments. (i.e. on holiday) • Gantry can be adjusted in width to span over various bed sizes • Portable versions can be used in rented or temporary accommodation

<p>Load Capacity Two motors on track(s)</p>	<p>Overhead twin motors on a single or double tracking system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used for bariatric consumers when an increased load capacity required. • Overhead twin motors mounted to a single or twin parallel tracks can increase the functional load capacity to be lifted.
<p>Elk Lifting Cushion</p>	<p>A portable battery-operated inflatable lifting cushion consisting of four individual layers.</p> <p>Each layer is inflated individually via a handheld control in numerical sequence.</p> <p>It assists a fallen person from the floor to a seated position.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will assist in lifting a fallen person from the floor with the help of a one or two person assist. • The deflated Elk is placed under the pelvis prior to inflation. • The person being lifted requires trunk control and sitting balance. • It is important to support the seated person at the shoulders as it does not have a backrest for support. • It has a lift capacity of 320 kgs • (supplier stated) • May reduce the need to call an ambulance if the person is not injured but has difficulty in standing up.

Slings		
<p>General Purpose Sling (with head support)</p> 	<p>A large U-Shaped piece of fabric.</p> <p>It provides full back, neck and head support.</p> <p>Divides at the top of the pelvis area into two sections that are fitted around each leg.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head and torso are fully supported in the sling. • Suitable for lifting from a lying position. • Head support may be part of sling or separate. • Suitable for consumers who have spasticity or extensor spasm. • Supporting the legs individually separates the legs, which may strain the hip joints and cause pain. • The leg supports can be placed between the legs to support each leg separately or positioned to support the legs together. • Cocoon effect may make occupants feel secure.
<p>Hammock Style/Amputee Sling</p>	<p>A rectangular piece of fabric with or without a commode aperture.</p> <p>Careful consideration must be given to a consumer's pressure care needs and the material of the sling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A highly supportive sling that may be suitable for a high level or double amputee. • Support needs may vary depending on length of stump. For high-level amputations and through-hip disarticulations, the

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For occupants who experience pain while in a sling, a hammock may distribute their weight over a larger area and therefore be more comfortable. • Sling material around head and torso may make some occupants feel enclosed. • To ensure fabric is under the buttocks this sling must be fitted and removed in a lying position. • Due to the material coverage of the occupant's body access for toileting and changing is not possible when sling is on. • As it is unable to be removed in a sitting position the occupant would need to sit on this while seated after transfer. 	<p>support level needs to be greatest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If not fitted correctly or the sling is inappropriate, there is a risk the occupant could fall through. • Extra-long straps at the front edge of the sling may be required if the occupant is to achieve an upright position. • Length of the stump is critical to consider in prescription. •
Sling Hygiene/Toileting/ Access With or without head support	<p>A U-shaped piece of fabric designed to leave the entire buttocks area uncovered for ease of toileting and washing.</p> <p>It has long narrow leg sections, which provide support under the mid-thigh area, and a narrow back support section.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard hygiene or toileting sling provides minimal support around the pelvic area. • Some hygiene slings incorporate a vest for added support. Head support also available. • May incorporate a buckle/ Velcro fastening at front. May be required as a safety feature to reduce the risk of occupant



- sliding down in sling
- Trunk and hip control required to maintain safe upright posture in sling
 - As position of occupant tends to be more upright it may impact on gastro reflux, peg feed or recent surgery
 - Arms must be outside the sling
 - Due to its smaller amount of fabric than other types of slings it may be easier to fit in a sitting position
 - Allows access from waist to buttocks for toileting, but not possible if pants are on.

Stand-up Sling



- This can be a single band that goes behind the consumer with a securing front trunk strap.
- It may have leg extension straps that go around the upper thigh to further secure the person.
- This is an easier sling to put on and can be used for toileting purposes.

Disposable Slings	Used by one person only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts on hygiene and infection control • They should not be washed and should be disposed of once soiled or damaged or the person no longer requires it
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Contract/Tender Details

After a rigorous and robust evaluation process, SWEP has contracted suppliers for a wide range of Assistive Technology. This has ensured that the equipment selected has been certified under the relevant Australian Standards, meets the specifications required by our consumer group and has been secured at the best value for money.

SWEP have a Contracted Item catalogue on our website, which contains all items listed by category, with a product brochure link, specification, and relevant information. You can access the catalogue here:

<https://swep.bhs.org.au/picklists-catalogue.php>

Summary of Evidence

Standards

Manual Handling Legislation, Acts/Code of Practice and Standards.
Occupational Health & Safety Act (2004) – Victoria.

<https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/all-acts-and-regulations>

Occupational Health & Safety Regulations (2017) These specify the ways duties imposed by the Act must be performed.

<https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/resources/guide-occupational-health-and-safety-regulations-2017>

Australian Legal Information Institute www.austlii.edu.au

Manual Handling Code of Practice 2001 www.worksafe.vic.gov.au

AS/NZS 10535:2024

Assistive products - Hoists for the transfer of persons - Requirements and test methods (ISO 10535:2021 (ED.3.0), MOD) STANDARD by Standards Australia / Standards New Zealand, 02/02/2024

AS/NZS ISO 10535-2021 Hoists for the Transfer of Disabled Persons - Requirements and Test methods

AS 1735.15 - 2002 Lifts, escalators and moving walks - Low rise passengers lifts - non-automatically controlled

Note:

ISO=International Standards Organisation

AS= Australian Standards

Relevant Articles

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Motacki, K. & Motacki, L.M. (2009). Safe Patient Handling and Movement in a Pediatric Setting, *Pediatric Nursing*, 35(4), 221-225.

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Stafford, D. (2007). Weighty Matters: A look at Bariatric Equipment, *Independent Living Journal*, 23(3), 22-25.

Watchorn, V. (2008). Getting a Lift, *Independent Living Journal*, 24(2), 20-22.

****Please note that some of these articles are not Australian and the legislation they refer to is different. Therapists should refer to the relevant Australian legislation and Work Cover booklets for accurate Australian information.**

Further Resources

Australia's National Equipment Database website: <https://askned.com.au>
Association for manual handling people website: <http://www.aamhp.org.au>
Victoria's hub for health services & business: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au>

References

<https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/>

A guide to Designing Workplaces for Safer Handling of people for Health, Aged Care, Rehabilitation and Disability Facilities (2007)

<http://www.homemods.info>

Home Modification Information Clearing House. Translating high quality research specific to better design and building practice.