



Policy

Saskatoon & Area - Occupational Health & Safety

Number: 60-001-04

Title: TLR: Patient Handling

Saskatchewan Employment Act:

OHS Regulation: 470

Date: January 1, 2017

Date Revised/Reaffirmed: June 7, 2018

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Purpose

- To ensure safety through training on assessment and techniques for safe patient handling
- To prevent injuries to workers while providing high standards of care
- To have minimal manual handling through maximum application of equipment and maximum effort from the client as indicated by the assessment

Roles and Responsibilities

Employer must ensure:

- A program is written and implemented that outlines procedures to be used by a competent person to assess whether a patient, resident or client requires assistance to move
- A program is written and implemented that outlines procedures and techniques that workers must use when mobilizing, lifting, holding, turning, positioning or transferring a patient, resident or client under all reasonably foreseeable circumstances
- Client handling equipment is provided and used for client moving when indicated after the Client Mobility Assessment is performed
- Equipment is provided in sufficient quantity, capacity and quality
- When use of client moving equipment is not reasonably practicable, take all feasible means to prevent injuries to workers when lifting, holding or transporting clients

Manager/Supervisor must ensure:

- That roles and responsibilities of all workers are being met, as well as applicable legislation and/or standards
- Safe work procedures are written and followed, including information on proper clothing and footwear
- All manufacturer user manuals are accessible to workers
- All workers are trained in the procedures and techniques of TLR Client Moving and re-certified at a minimum of every three years
- That workers are trained in and use client handling equipment to minimize manual handling
- Enough time and people are available to handle clients safely
- A preventative maintenance program for equipment is implemented that meets the manufacture's recommendations
- All injuries are reviewed resulting from mobilizing, lifting, holding, positioning or transferring patients, residents or clients to determine the causes of the injuries

Worker must ensure:

- They are trained in and follow TLR Client Moving principles
- They are trained in and use any client handling equipment required (selection, use, care and handling)
- Where a patient, client or resident has been assessed as requiring assistance, the required techniques and equipment to mobilize, lift, hold, turn, position or transfer the patient, client or resident is clearly identified in writing or visual means at or near the location of the patient, client or resident
- Equipment is used to minimize manual handling
- They report to their supervisor and the Safety Alert System/Incident Report Line for any incidents or near misses involving client moving

Orientation & Training

- TLR General and Client Moving
- Training on any lifts or mechanical devices used to aid in client moving

Materials

- Appropriate PPE if required

Non-Compliance/Breach:

Non-compliance with this policy will result in a review of the incident. A review for non-compliance may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or privileges; fines and /or prosecution of individuals under the Saskatchewan Employment Act and OHS Regulations.

References

- [Saskatchewan Association for Safe Workplaces in Health – TLR Program](#)

Review Dates:

January 1, 2017

June 7, 2018