Slide Sheet & Transfer Sheet Instructions

Due to the complex moving and handling risks, before using a slide sheet(s), a complete assessment by an appropriately qualified person should be carried out. The assessment will consider the user, the patient, the task and the environment in which the sliding sheet(s) is to be used.

Safe patient handling practices should always be adopted by following your local hospital patient handling guidelines. These will be available from your hospital Health and Safety or Patient Moving and Handling adviser.

If in doubt always consult your Patient Moving and Handling Adviser before use.

Not for Lifting – Cromptons Healthcare slide sheets are not intended for lifting. All patient repositioning manoeuvres should be accomplished without lifting.

Inspect before use – slide sheets should be inspected prior to use for signs of wear-and-tear and replaced as necessary. Fabric, thread and stitch degradation will take place over time as normal wear and tear that will reduce the slide sheet capacity.

Slip Hazard – Slide sheets should never be left on the floor as they are extremely slippery and will create a slip hazard.

Inclined Operating Table Hazard – a potential hazard will exist if the operating table is inclined while the transfer sheet or slide sheet is retained beneath the patient, if inclined sufficiently there is a risk the patient will slide off the operating table. Local risk analysis should consider this possibility when reviewing slide sheet/transfer sheet use within theatres.

Tissue Viability Considerations – Transtex slide sheets do not present a tissue viability hazard in normal use with healthy patients. Extra care should however be taken when using slide sheets with vulnerable patients who may be predisposed to tissue viability issues. On these patients the hemmed slide sheet sides or webbing handles may increase the risk of injury from pressure associated injuries, frictional shearing or abrasion damage. You can mitigate these risks by adopting correct patient handling techniques and by correct slide sheet choice. In these instances you may consider choosing a wider bariatric sheet, a sheet without side handles, or an un hemmed patient specific slide sheet.

Basic Slide Sheet Manoeuvres

Moving a patient up and down the bed
Assess the patient to ascertain the correct size slide sheet(s) to use. Using an approved manual handling technique pass the slide sheet(s) beneath the patient. The patient can now be guided in the desired direction by pulling the sheet. Once patient movement has been accomplished the slide sheet(s) can be withdrawn by either using a rolling technique or pulled out from beneath the patient by working the sheet(s) one face against the other until withdrawn.

Turning a patient in bed
Assess the patient to ascertain the correct size slide sheet(s) to use. Using an approved manual handling technique pass the slide sheet(s) beneath the patient. To turn the patient either towards or away from you take the bottom or top of the sliding sheet and gently pull, the patient will roll in the direction required.

Moving a patient from bed to chair
Assess the patient to ascertain the correct size slide sheet(s) to use. Position the patient in the centre with the sheet(s) set to move laterally. Lower the bed so that both chair and bed are level. Take a transfer board, place under the edge of the sliding sheet(S) and onto the chair, making sure the chair is tight to the bed transfer you patient across.

Swivel a patient around whilst sitting
In the centre of the bed place the slide sheet(s) under the patient using an approved manual handling technique. Gently holding the ankles of the patient slowly turn the legs around so that they are to the side of the bed. Remove the slide sheet(s) using an appropriate manual handling technique.

Extension Handles to maintain correct posture
Extension handles or straps can be used with Ultra-glide transfer sheets to reduce overreaching and assist in the maintenance of correct posture during patient repositioning manoeuvres.
Attach the extension handle directly to the slide sheet by looping through and around slide sheet edge handle. An extension can place increased load on the slide sheet perimeter handle and carers should be extra vigilant when inspecting the slide sheet for wear and tear prior to use.
Re-usable slide sheets
All Cromptons RS slide sheets can be laundered follow standard hospital laundry guidelines HSG(95)18. The use of bleaching agents should be avoided.
Maximum recommended washing temperature 80° C.
Drip dry, (if necessary a low temperature tumble dry may be used with care. Tumble dried sheets may develop a wrinkled appearance that should not affect performance).
Sheets may be wiped clean using a dilute chlorine based solution and a good quality sterilisation fluid.