

APPENDIX D

Sling Selection Chart

| Activity | Sling Considerations | Criteria Choices | Special |
|---|----------------------|---|---|
| Vertical transfers (To/from bed/ wheelchair/ commode/ dependency chair/etc.) | SEATED | Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients. |
| | STANDING | Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. |
| Lateral transfers (To/from bed/ stretcher/shower trolley/gurney) | SUPINE | Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. |
| Bathing | SUPINE | Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. |
| | SEATED | Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients. |
| | LIMB SUPPORT | Sustained holding of any extremity while bathing in bed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider wounds, comfort, circulation, neurovascular and joint conditions, if task is of long duration. |
| Toileting | SEATED | Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients. |
| | STANDING | Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. |
| Repositioning in chair | SEATED | Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients. |

| Activity | Sling Choices | Criteria | Special Considerations |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---|---|
| Repositioning up in bed | SUPINE | Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. |
| | SEATED | Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients. |
| | REPOSITIONING | Patient can tolerate supine position. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. |
| Turning a patient in bed | SUPINE | Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. |
| | REPOSITIONING | Patient can tolerate supine position. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. |
| Making an occupied bed | SUPINE | Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. |
| | SEATED | Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients. |
| Functional sit-stand training/support | STANDING | Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. |
| Dressing | STANDING | Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. |
| | LIMB SUPPORT | Sustained holding of any extremity while dressing in bed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider wounds, comfort, circulation, neurovascular and joint conditions, if task is of long duration. |
| Pericare | STANDING | Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. |

| Activity | Sling Choices | Criteria | Special Considerations |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---|--|
| Ambulation training and support | WALKING | Partial weight-bearing, level of cooperation, consult doctor and/or therapist for readiness. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if wounds present that affect transfers and positioning. ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. |
| | STANDING | Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands. | |
| Wound care/dressing | LIMB SUPPORT | Sustained holding of any extremity while dressing/caring for wounds while patient in bed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider wounds, comfort, circulation, neurovascular and joint conditions, if task is of long duration. |
| Surgical procedures | LIMB SUPPORT | Sustained holding of any extremity while performing surgical procedure in bed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider wounds, comfort, circulation, neurovascular and joint conditions, if task is of long duration. |
| Fall rescue | SUPINE | Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Need for patient to remain flat. Patient can tolerate supine position. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients. |
| | SEATED | Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion. | |

Adapted from A. Baptiste, M. McCleery, M. Matz & C. Evitt, "Evaluation of sling use for patient safety," *Rehabilitation Nursing* (Jan.–Feb. 2008).