

# APPENDIX J

## Floor-Based Lifts Coverage Determination

To determine the number of floor-based lifts required for a unit or facility, the general rule of thumb is one portable lift per 8-10 patients. For example, the number of sit-to-stand lifts needed for a unit with 30 patients, 30 percent of whom are categorized as requiring partial assistance, (n=9) is one lift. The number of floor-based, full-body sling lifts required in a unit with no ceiling lifts in place and 30 patients, 60 percent of whom are considered fully dependent or require extensive assistance (n=18), is two lifts.

When deciding how much portable equipment to purchase, consider peak patient handling and movement times/loads during each shift. Note that the number of portable, floor-based lifts will be reduced with the introduction of fixed lift systems, such as ceiling-mounted systems.

Table J-1 can be used to determine the number of floor-based lifts-both full-body sling lifts and sit-to-stand lifts-needed for each clinical area/unit.

### ■ **Floor-based sling lift recommendations.**

These are based on ceiling lift coverage as specified and calculated using Table I-1 in Appendix I.

- If ceiling lift coverage is less than that in Table I-1, the need for floor-based sling lifts will increase, requiring more storage space. Use the rule of thumb of one per 8-10 dependent patients not covered by ceiling lifts (from the NIOSH article referenced in Table I-1).
- With full ceiling lift coverage as in Table I-1, floor-based sling lifts may be shared by units on one or more floors, decreasing the number required.

### ■ **Sit-to-stand lift recommendations**

- The recommendations shown in Table J-1 apply when there is no other means of risk control for the patient characteristics and activities being addressed (toileting, dressing, peri-care, vertical transfers, etc., of partially dependent patients).
- Now that ambulation slings with ceiling lifts are used more often to assist in ambulating and vertical transfers, the quantity of sit-to-stand lifts needed (and associated space requirements) will decrease when other ceiling lift adaptations or technology are used and/or available.

Table J-1: Portable/Floor-Based Lift Minimal Coverage by Clinical Area/Unit

CLINICAL UNIT/AREA	RECOMMENDED COVERAGE	
	Sit-to-Stand Lifts	Floor-Based Sling Lifts <sup>2</sup>
General medical unit	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
Medical/surgical unit	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
Post-surgical unit	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
Rehab unit	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
MICU	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
SICU	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
CCU	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
ICU (Combined MICU/SICU/CCU)	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
Nursing home/long term care	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
Geri-psych	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
Psychiatry	One per 8–10 partially weight-bearing patients <sup>1</sup>	One per floor or unit
Emergency dept./urgent care	One	One
Radiology/diagnostics (X-ray, CT, nuclear medicine, MRI) <i>(If possible, specify diagnostic tables without pedestals or with pedestal design that accommodates placement of portable/floor-based lifts under table and around pedestal.)</i>	One per entire radiology/diagnostic area <i>Note: Tables must accommodate lift bases.</i>	One per entire radiology/diagnostic area <i>Note: Tables must accommodate lift bases.</i>
Physical therapy clinics	One per clinic	One per clinic
OR	None	None
PACU	None	None
Procedure areas (GI, cystoscopy, cath lab, etc.)	One per floor/unit	One per floor or unit
Spinal cord injury unit	None or one <i>(Depending on patient population)</i>	One per floor or unit
Outpatient SCI clinic exam/treatment rooms	None or one <i>(Depending on patient population)</i>	None
Outpatient/primary care clinics <i>Exam tables must accommodate lift base.</i>	One <i>(May need additional lifts if clinics are not in close proximity to one another)</i>	One <i>(May need additional lifts if clinics are not in close proximity to one another)</i>

CLINICAL UNIT/AREA	RECOMMENDED COVERAGE	
	Sit-to-Stand Lifts	Floor-Based Sling Lifts <sup>2</sup>
Hemodialysis <i>Chair design must accommodate lift base.</i>	One <i>(Depending on typical patient population and whether using chairs and/or beds)</i>	None
Dental <i>Dental chairs must accommodate lift base.</i>	One	None
Pediatrics	One	One
Nurse training area	One	One
Morgue	None	If no ceiling lift, provide "morgue lift."

1 J. Collins et al., *Safe Lifting and Movement of Nursing Home Residents* (DHHS [NIOSH] Publication Number 2006-117, 2006).

2 These recommendations are based on ceiling lift coverage as shown in Table I-1 in Appendix I.