## **Questions or Concerns?**

The information and equipment presented here may be new to you. As always, we want to help you and your family feel safe and comfortable with your care. If you or your family have questions or concerns about

"Safe
Patient Handling
and
Movement"

please feel free to talk with your nurse.



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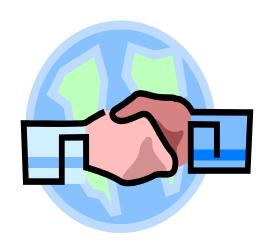
Prepared by: Teresa Guice, RN

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Approved by Health Education Committee 11/04



James H. Quillen VA Medical Center Mountain Home, Tennessee 37684



A Partnership of Caring and Safety

## **Safety First**

The James H. Ouillen Veteran's Affairs Medical Center wants our patients to be cared for safely. When you are a patient in the hospital, you may be weak. You may not be able to walk or move about without help or assistance. The staff may need to help you turn from side-to-side in bed, change your position or transfer you from the bed to a chair or stretcher. You may need help to get to the bathroom or to take a bath or shower. An important part of providing you with safe care is how we help you to move or transfer from one place to another.



## A New Approach

"Safe Patient Handling and Movement" is a safer way to help you move and transfer. It is part of a new "No Lift" approach that puts safety first. The nursing and therapy staff will be using special kinds of equipment. This equipment is made just for moving and transferring patients safely and comfortably.



The BRAVO Ceiling-Mounted Lift

You, and the staff, will be safer as you move to or from the bed, chair or stretcher. The lift can help when you might not be able to stand or walk without extra help and support.

Our staff will consider your special needs to decide which equipment will work best to keep you and the staff that provide your care as safe as possible.

## **Special Equipment**

Mechanical Lifts - very strong electronic lifts that help staff to move, lift and hold you. They use a vest or sling connected to the lift to support your body weight. While you are in the sling, you will be in a standing or sitting-type position. Some of these lifts can be moved from room-to-room and some of them are ceiling-mounted.

Lateral Transfer Devices - a type of equipment that will help the staff move you from a bed to a stretcher or an X-Ray table. There are two types of lateral transfer devices. With one type, you will lie on an air mattress that moves or glides on a cushion of air. A second type looks like a large sheet with straps. When it is folded and placed under you it makes a slick layer. The slick layer will make it easy for the staff to slide you from your bed to a stretcher or X-Ray table.

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