



The Association of Safe Patient Handling Professionals offers a Discussion Group as a membership benefit. It is a great way to share knowledge on safe patient handling and mobility, solicit advice from peers, and engage with other members. Members are enrolled automatically upon joining the association.

Participation in the ASPHP Discussion Group means that you have read and agree to follow the rules. ASPHP reserves the right to suspend or terminate Discussion Group membership for those who violate these terms.

Questions should be emailed to info@asphp.org

ASPHP Discussion Group Rules

- **Choose Relevant Topics:** Post only discussion topics related to SPHM in this forum. Refrain from off-topic messages, including jokes, chain letters, junk mail, etc. We reserve the right to reject any message for any reason.
- **Include Contact Information:** Include a signature tag on all messages with your name, professional affiliation, location, and email address. If you do not wish to be contacted by vendors, please state this at the end of your post before your contact information.
- **Do not post individually identifiable health information.** Avoid sharing any information that identifies or provides a reasonable basis to identify an individual. Information to omit includes hospital name, patient or healthcare provider names, and dates. Avoid descriptions or stories that would provide a reasonable basis to identify an individual.
- **No Ads or Marketing:** The ASPHP Discussion Group may not be used for the solicitation, promotion or sales of commercial products or services. Unless they have indicated they do not wish to be contacted, contact individuals directly with product and service information if you believe it would help them. Additionally, consider sponsorship opportunities with ASPHP to highlight your products or services through other channels. Please see below for examples of posts that violate these rules.
- ***NEW* No Product or Brand Names:** To limit advertisement, use of product and brand names are prohibited. Instead, please describe products generically (e.g., sit to stand lift, repositioning sheet, etc.). Educational materials that are not product-specific are allowed and encouraged. Vendor-produced educational materials are acceptable if the content is applicable to an entire product category and they are

not intended as a sales tool.

- **Keep Comments Positive and Treat Others Respectfully:** This Discussion Group is meant to stimulate conversation, not create contention or start arguments. Please be sure that all posts are respectful and do not challenge or attack others. All defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive or illegal materials are strictly prohibited.
- **No Announcements:** The ASPHP Discussion Group may not be used for posting job openings.
- **Copyright:** Do not post any information or other material protected by copyright without the permission of the copyright owner. By posting material, the posting party warrants and represents that he or she owns the copyright with respect to such material or has received permission from the copyright owner. In addition, the posting party grants ASPHP and users of this site the nonexclusive right and license to display, copy, publish, distribute, transmit, print, and use such information or other material.
- **No Lobbying or Politics:** Voicing opinions about pending legislation, promoting, and engaging in political activities, and attempting to influence the legislative process by lobbying list members to take action are not allowed. This is a violation of our 501(c)(3) status.

Discussion Group Etiquette

1. State the topic of conversation concisely and clearly in the message subject line. This allows members to respond more appropriately to posts and to search the archives more easily by subject.
2. Include only the relevant portions of the original message in your reply.
3. Only send a message to the group when it contains information that everyone can benefit from.
4. Send personal replies and messages such as "thanks for the information" or "me, too" to individuals - not to the entire group.
5. Do not send administrative messages, such as remove me from the list. Instead, use the web interface to change your settings or to remove yourself from a list. You can also change your email address in the settings.

Examples of Disallowed Posts

Unprompted solicitation

Hello, I'm happy to join this group. My company DeviceX has SolutionZ that is the best solution for you needs, contact me today!

- Do this instead: contact ASPHP to explore our many sponsorship opportunities.

Responding with an advertisement

Initial post: How do you safely prone patients in your operating room?

Disallowed response A: My company DeviceX has SolutionZ that is the best solution for you needs, contact me today!

Disallowed response B: My company has a device that will do this. Please visit my company's website.

- Do this instead:
 - 1) contact the poster directly. If they did not post contact information, wait for moderators to contact the poster to add their contact information. OR
 - 2) Post non product-specific information without advocating for brands, for example: “We have seen customers having success using repositioning sheets with overhead lifts using the following steps...”

Linking to promotional materials

Placing a link to a general website or advertisement is not allowed if it is not primarily educational in nature.

- Do this instead: link to educational content. If it is copyrighted, be sure that you have permission to post per the rules above.

Naming products or brands

Hello, what do you all think of product ABC from company XYZ?

- Post this instead: What product features should be considered for devices that help rescue patients from the floor? Does anyone have links to educational resources?

Disclaimer:

This Discussion Group was created by and provided as a membership benefit of Association of Safe Patient Handling Professionals. ASPHP accepts no responsibility for the opinions and information posted on this site by others. ASPHP disclaims all warranties regarding information posted on this site, whether posted by ASPHP or any third party; this disclaimer includes all implied warranties of merchantability and fitness. In no event shall ASPHP be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages or any damages whatsoever resulting from loss of use, data or profits arising out of or in connection with the use or performance of any information posted on this site. Any posts by members are subject to libel, slander, and antitrust laws.