SWP-SPH-ASSISTING A FALLING PATIENT FROM STANDING



Position/Job: 1-2 Healthcare Workers (HCWs) Department/Unit: All patient care areas	Description of Task: Assisting a Falling Patient from Standing							
Risk for Injury (check all that apply) Specify Type, Manufacturer, Model	·			Ţ.				
Biological (puncture/spill/splash/exposure)								
Caught In/Under/Between Wall, Equipment		Risk for Injury (check all that apply)						
Chemical/Hazardous Substance/Medication		Biological (puncture/spill/splash/exposure)			Head F	Protection:		
Contact with Hot/Cold Object/Substance Contact with Sharp Object (not biological) Hand Protection: Face Protection: Hand Protection: Falling or moving equipment/material Beopt Protection: Falling or moving equipment/material Beopt Protection: Beopt Protection: Falling Protection: Beopt Protection: Beopt Protection: Patient/Supervised or patient Falling or moving equipment/material Beopt Protection: Beopt		Caught In/Under/Between Wall, Equipmen	t		Eye Pro	otection:		
Contact with Sharp Object (not biological)		Chemical/Hazardous Substance/Medication	n		Hearin	g Protection:		
Electrical		Contact with Hot/Cold Object/Substance			Face P	rotection:		
Falling or moving equipment/material Respirator/Fit Test: Moving machinery / parts Body Protection: MSI-Awkward / sustained postures Hi Visibility Apparel: MSI-Forceful exertions Other: MSI-Repetitive motions Equipment and/or tools required to perform task Noise Transfer belt appropriately sized for the patient, Surfaces/Objects causing slips, trip or falls Proper footwear for patient Task requires more than 1 worker Violent, Aggressive or Reactive Behaviours For machine operation tasks complete the following Working Alone or in Isolation Machine Description and Safety Features: Other: Infection Transmission Machine Description and Safety Features: Patient/Client/Resident Related Tasks - be knowledgeable of patient specific hazards (CARE Alert, Falls Risk, Patient Handling Assessment, Isolation Precautions, etc.) Machine Description and Safety Features: Training and Proficiency: Staff who perform this task must be trained as indicated below in this safe work procedure prior to performing it. Training must be documented. This SWP must be available to staff. Read Procedure and Sign Other Required Training: Specify Watched Video Seponsibilities Staff performing task: Perform task in accordance to training, established health and safety regulations, guidelines, policies and procedures (e.g. following safe work procedures). Follow process for reporting hazards, injuries, occurrences and patient safety events. Approved by Original Effective Date Reviewed Da		Contact with Sharp Object (not biological)			Hand F	Protection:		
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Provincial workplace Safety & Health Working July 2019 July 2019 January 2022								
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SWP-SPH-ASSISTING A FALLING PATIENT FROM STANDING



This safe work procedure was created by The Provincial Workplace Safety and Health MSIP Subcommittee and will be reviewed any time the task, equipment or materials change and at a minimum of every three years from the last revision date.

Notes/Other Considerations:

- Patient should be properly assessed for ability and potential contraindications with using a transfer belt.
- o Factors which can affect helping a falling patient:
 - Direction of the fall (towards or away from HCW)
 - Size of patient in relation to HCW
 - Distance between patient and HCW during fall
 - Obstructions within fall area.

Note: Falls happen quickly and unexpectedly, use all precautions to prevent the potential for a fall whenever possible.

Note: HCWs should never attempt to "catch" or hold up a falling patient. This may result in further injury to the HCW and/or patient.

Steps to be taken to complete task safely

1

HCW quickly moves behind patient if close enough to do so. HCW stands with wide base of support, one foot in front of the other. Front foot of HCW is placed between legs of patient. HCW grasps transfer belt if already around patient. If no transfer belt, attempt to hold patient on either side of their waist.



2

HCW takes a step backwards with back leg and bends both knees, keeping patient close.

If fall occurs with a two-person transfer or walking assist, HCW #2 assists in guiding the patient to the floor.



SWP-SPH-ASSISTING A FALLING PATIENT FROM STANDING



HCW allows patient to "slide" down the front leg of the HCW and guides patient to the floor. Protect the head of the patient whenever possible.

Related Materials:

References: