


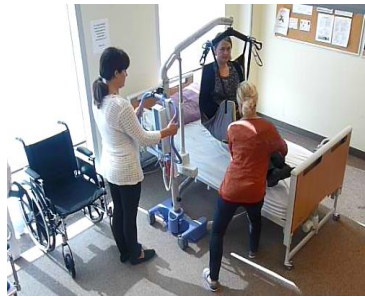




Safe Work Procedure (SWP)

Name of Task: SCH 2A Floor Lift

Description of Task: Transfer client to/from bed/chair/wheelchair using two person assist and mechanical floor lift.	
Position/Job: HCA, ISW, RA, nurse	Department/Unit: WRHA Home Care
Equipment and/or Tools Required: Mechanical floor lift (appropriate weight capacity) Sling appropriate for client May be used: wheelchair, electric bed, side bed rail	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Required: Appropriate footwear and clothing for staff
Potential Hazards: Forceful movements, awkward/sustained positions, infection transmission, violent and/or aggressive behavior Signs and symptoms of a musculoskeletal injury (MSI) can include pain, burning, swelling, stiffness, numbness/tingling, and/or loss of movement or strength in a body part. Report these to your supervisor.	
Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Client must be assessed for ability and potential concerns in using this lift. Do not proceed with transfer and contact supervisor if there are changes in client's ability. If applying sling requires more than minimal assistance by each staff (e.g., rolling client), additional procedures and/or equipment may be required (e.g., using sliders to insert sling) If behavior interferes with care additional procedures and/or care planning may be required. Report to supervisor. Note: Prior to each use, ensure that the lift is in proper working order and that the battery is charged. Inspect the slings for signs of damage prior to use. Note: Mechanical lifts are designed for short distance transfers in the same room (e.g., bed to chair).	
Steps to be taken to complete task safely:	
1	Set-up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish staff roles: The staff most familiar with the client and the procedure takes the lead. Lead staff is responsible for directing the task (communicating with client and second staff); second staff is responsible for watching for safety and assisting with mobility as directed by lead. Note: second staff may be a caregiver. Where applicable, position equipment (e.g., wheelchair) with enough room to complete transfer and maneuver lift. If transferring to wheelchair, remove footrests and apply brakes. If starting on bed, adjust bed to waist height of shortest staff wherever possible. Ensure that there is enough space to move the lift and that the flooring is suitable (e.g., hardwood, vinyl, tile, low pile carpet). Each staff stands on opposite sides of bed/ wheelchair wherever possible.
2	Sling application: <u>If client is sitting:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask client to lean forward. Insert sling behind client until the bottom edge reaches seat pan of the chair. If client requires minimal assist to lean forward, staff stand on either side of client in a wide base of support, hips and knees bent and back straight. Staff place one hand on client's upper back and the other hand in front of client's shoulder and shift weight to side to lean client forward. Ask client to lift leg slightly to insert leg strap. Gently pull leg strap around inner thigh and ensure bottom edge of sling reaches client's tailbone. Be careful not to shear client's skin. One staff may hold onto client's shin below knee to slightly raise client's thigh from seated surface while second staff inserts leg strap. If available, place a slider under client's thigh to position leg strap. <u>If client is lying :</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask client to roll to one side and place center of sling along spine of client. If it is difficult to roll client, use sliders. Ensure bottom of sling is positioned at client's tailbone. Top of sling is positioned at/above client's shoulders (as per sling type). If client requires assist to roll, staff stand on either side of client with wide base of support and one foot in front of the other. Lead staff pushes/rolls client towards second person by shifting weight up and forward. Second staff assists to guide and maintain client in place. With one side of the sling draped over client, lead staff tucks half of sling under client.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask or assist client to roll to opposite side to pull sling through. 	
3	<p>Attach sling to lift:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open floor lift base as wide as possible. Insert under bed frame or around bed/chair/wheelchair. Brakes do not need to be applied for the duration of the transfer. Lead staff lowers the hanger bar over the client's chest (in bed) or in front of client (in sitting) so that the loops of the sling can be easily attached to the lift. Leg straps are positioned as appropriate for sling type (e.g., looped through and crossed). Follow any special instructions provided. Staff securely attach appropriate loops based on client's size and desired position (i.e., sitting/lying). Most commonly attach longer loop at leg straps and shorter loop at shoulders. Ensure the same level/loop colors are used on the left and right side of the body at each location (i.e., shoulders and legs). 	 
4	<p>Lift client:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask client to cross arms to prepare for transfer. Lead staff uses the controller to raise client just enough to clear bed or seated surface (may require lowering bed surface). Ensure all loops remain securely attached to the hanger bar and that client is properly positioned and comfortable in sling before continuing with the lift/transfer. 	
5	<p>Move client to receiving surface:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With elbows tucked in and wrist straight, lead staff grasps onto handles of lift. With one foot in front of the other, lead staff pulls lift away and guides the floor lift and client towards receiving surface. Use weight shifting technique to move lift. If client is on bed, second staff uses two hands to move client's legs off the bed and turns client to face the mast of the lift. If lift is difficult to turn, staff may stand beside the lift and hold onto one handle while using a foot to push on the base. Second staff moves the bed/chair/wheelchair under the client and ensures brakes are applied. 	 
6	<p>Lower client onto bed/chair/wheelchair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure client is centered over bed/chair/wheelchair. If lowering client onto seated surface, lead staff lowers client using the controller, ensuring hanger bar does not contact client's head: <p>Option #1: Lead staff stands on side of lift in front of client and second staff stands behind chair/wheelchair. Both staff stand with one foot in front of the other and hips and knees bent and</p>	

	<p>back straight. Lead staff gently pushes on leg straps and/or client's shins while second staff holds onto handles of sling to guide the client back onto the commode. Both staff uses weight shift technique (one forward, one back).</p> <p>Option #2: Both staff stand on either side of lift in front of client and gently push on leg straps and/or client's shins to guide client back. Both staff use weight shift technique forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If lowering client onto bed, second staff uses two hands to move client's legs onto the bed. <p>Note: When lowering onto wheelchair, it may tip slightly back. This corrects when client comes close to seat.</p>	
7	<p>Sling removal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once client is positioned correctly, unhook sling from lift. Remove one leg strap at a time by folding it under itself and pull towards outside of chair. Ask client to assist by lifting thigh slightly if able. One staff may hold onto client's shin below knee to slightly raise client's thigh from seated surface while second staff removes leg strap. Reverse procedure to transfer client back to original surface. 	
Responsibilities		
<p>Managers/Supervisors or Designate: Ensure all duties are performed in accordance to training, established health and safety regulations/guidelines, policies and procedures (e.g. following safe work procedures)</p> <p>Staff performing task: Perform task in accordance to training, established health and safety regulations/guidelines, policies and procedures (e.g. following safe work procedures). Notify Manager/Supervisor or designates of all occurrences/incidents, injuries, illnesses or safety and health concerns which are likely to harm themselves, co-workers, or any others who enter the premises.</p>		
Completion and Review		
This safe work procedure will be reviewed any time the task, equipment or materials change and at a minimum of every three years from the last revision date		
Approved by: Pending approval by PWHSWG and PHRLC		
Created by: Home Care Safe Client Handling Committee		
Last Revision Date: February 2019		