

## Job Aid: Bed to geri chair transfer

**Prepare Equipment:** Ensure battery is charged for transfer. Test lift controls before bringing the lift to the patient. Make sure the emergency release feature works. Ensure receiving surface is stable and locked. Ensure slings, hooks, chains, straps, and supports are available, appropriate, and correctly sized.

With the legs of the base **open and locked**, use the steering handle to push the patient lift into position under the bed. Base legs are usually more stable in full open position. Position lift and receiving surface at correct height to transfer the patient easily.

To increase patient safety, use the **correct type and size of sling** for your patient. Select the sling and sling bar based on manufacturer's recommendations for the following criteria: Type of transfer task, patient's medical condition, patient's size/weight, and pressure sensitivity.

**Place the patient into the sling.** Position center of the sling under patient's spine. Place leg straps flat under the patient; do not let the material fold. Make sure the sling opening is not too large or small to make the patient slip out.

**Lower the sling bar down to the patient.** Do not let the sling bar hit the patient. Attach the sling bar as directed by the manufacturer. Use matching loops from each side to ensure that the sling is balanced.

**Alternate the straps to form an X loop.** Ensure all clips or loops are secure and that they will stay attached as the patient is lifted. Ensure straps are not twisted. Ensure that the patient's head and/or back is supported, if needed.

**Attach sling straps to sling bar** as directed by manufacturer's manual. Use matching loops from each side to ensure sling is balanced. Choose loops that provide best angle and position for patient. Ensure all clips or loops are secure and will stay attached as the patient is lifted.

**Lift patient two inches off the surface** to make sure they are secure. Check the following: Sling straps are confined by the guard on the sling bar and will not disengage. Weight is spread evenly between straps. Patient will not slide out of sling or tip backward or forward.

**Use gentle hands-on pressure to guide** the patient as you slowly move lift toward receiving surface.  
**Note:** Holding or supporting patient's weight while in the sling may cause straps or hooks to detach from the lift. Slowly lower the patient toward the receiving surface.

