

Lifting and Transferring; Prescription of Patient Transfer Platforms, Hoists and Slings

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People handling tasks refer to activities that involve a carer holding, supporting, or transferring (lift, lower, carry, push, pull, slide) a person either within a home or work environment (Manual Tasks Involving the Handling of People Code of Practice, 2001).

All people handling tasks are a potential source of musculoskeletal injury to the carer, and for the person being moved to experience adverse effects such as falls and pressure injuries (WorkCover Queensland, 2014). The use of people handling equipment has been effectively used to minimise these potential risks.

This workshop will include both theory and practical components to provide participants with the opportunity develop their clinical reasoning on the prescription of the following people handling equipment: patient transfer platforms, hoists (standing, mobile and ceiling) and slings.

Learning outcomes:

- An overview of relevant manual handling legislation, risk assessment and safe handling principles
- How to assess the person, task and environment to determine the most suitable type of people handling equipment
- Developing an understanding of the different design features available on patient transfer platforms, hoists and slings
- Sling prescription: hoist compatibility and how to measure for a correct fit
- Considerations for ceiling hoist prescription and installation
- Practical experience using a variety of people handling equipment: patient transfer platforms, standing hoists, mobile floor hoists (with yoke and pivot attachments), ceiling hoists and slings.
- Tips on how to provide instruction and guidance to others on the use of people handling equipment, trouble shooting and maintenance