

APPENDIX D

Sling Selection Chart

Activity	Sling Choices	Criteria	Special Considerations
Vertical transfers (To/from bed/ wheelchair/ commode/ dependency chair/etc.)	SEATED	Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients.
	STANDING	Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning.
Lateral transfers (To/from bed/ stretcher/shower trolley/gurney)	SUPINE	Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning.
Bathing	SUPINE	Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning.
	SEATED	Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients.
	LIMB SUPPORT	Sustained holding of any extremity while bathing in bed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider wounds, comfort, circulation, neurovascular and joint conditions, if task is of long duration.
Toileting	SEATED	Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients.
	STANDING	Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning.
Repositioning in chair	SEATED	Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients.

Activity	Sling Choices	Criteria	Special Considerations
Repositioning up in bed	SUPINE	Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients. ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning.
	SEATED	Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion.	
	REPOSITIONING	Patient can tolerate supine position.	
Turning a patient in bed	SUPINE	Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning.
	REPOSITIONING	Patient can tolerate supine position.	
Making an occupied bed	SUPINE	Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Patient can tolerate supine position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients.
	SEATED	Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion.	
Functional sit-stand training/support	STANDING	Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning.
Dressing	STANDING	Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider wounds, comfort, circulation, neurovascular and joint conditions, if task is of long duration.
	LIMB SUPPORT	Sustained holding of any extremity while dressing in bed.	
Pericare	STANDING	Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning.

Activity	Sling Choices	Criteria	Special Considerations
Ambulation training and support	WALKING	Partial weight-bearing, level of cooperation, consult doctor and/or therapist for readiness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if wounds present that affect transfers and positioning. ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning.
	STANDING	Patient can grasp and hold handle with at least one hand, has at least partial weight-bearing capability, has upper body strength, and is cooperative and can follow simple commands.	
Wound care/dressing	LIMB SUPPORT	Sustained holding of any extremity while dressing/caring for wounds while patient in bed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider wounds, comfort, circulation, neurovascular and joint conditions, if task is of long duration.
Surgical procedures	LIMB SUPPORT	Sustained holding of any extremity while performing surgical procedure in bed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider wounds, comfort, circulation, neurovascular and joint conditions, if task is of long duration.
Fall rescue	SUPINE	Patient cannot tolerate sitting position and has restricted hip and/or knee flexion. Need for patient to remain flat. Patient can tolerate supine position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do NOT use if patient has respiratory compromise or if wounds present may affect transfers/positioning. ■ Consider presence of wounds for sling application and patient positioning. ■ Consider precautions of total hip replacement patients.
	SEATED	Patient can tolerate sitting position and has adequate hip and knee flexion.	

Adapted from A. Baptiste, M. McCleery, M. Matz & C. Evitt, "Evaluation of sling use for patient safety," *Rehabilitation Nursing* (Jan.–Feb. 2008).