

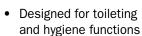
Don't forget to 'PACE' yourself!

Physical – Slings

Sling style selection is based on assessment of the person's body shape and weight, functional abilities, and not necessarily the care task to be performed. Slings are to be used only by staff that have been trained in their safe use.

TYPE OF SLING	WHEN TO USE
Universal Slings	 Most common, multipurpose sling – can be used for persons with limited upper body function, available with or without head support Designed to be used for transfers in conjunction with a floor lift or ceiling lift Provides toileting access Three leg configuration options: 1. Crossed, 2. Open, 3. Cradled
Hammock Sling	 Most supportive and provides head support, maximum support to the sacral area Designed to be used for transfers in conjunction with a floor lift or ceiling lift Transfers from bed, wheelchair, geriatric chair, or shower-chair or on/off the floor Three leg configuration options: 1. Crossed, 2. Open, 3. Cradled
Hygiene Slings	Designed for toileting

TYPE OF SLING WHEN TO USE **Re-positioning Slings** Safest way to reposition and turn a person. Can be left under the person. Can be used for lateral transfers and getting someone off the floor **Band Slings** Used to support limbs to facilitate change of dressing on arms, hands, legs, feet or to elevate and hold limbs **Turning Sling** Turn a person into a lateral, resting position



- Can be used with mechanical lift and sit to stand aid
- Least supportive sling, cannot be used to pick up from floor
- Three leg configuration options: 1. Crossed, 2. Open, 3. Cradled

Did you know that slings come in a variety of fabrics designed for various tasks, comfort and consideration of a person's skin integrity?

A standard transfer (sling is applied before and removed after the care task) may be padded or quilted for comfort, water permeable for bathing, mesh, or disposable material.

All day solutions for slings to be left behind a person should be made of breathable fabrics with straps and leg pieces that are easy to tuck away.

Inspect the sling before each use

Check for obvious signs of wear and tear such as fraying or loose stitching of loops, rips, holes or bleach staining on sling body, weakening of fabrics (e.g. heat damage, brittle, stiff, puckered fabric) or significant staining, check all buckles and closures.

If there are any signs of sling breakdown, the sling must be removed from service. Repairs to slings are possible. Please consult your equipment distributor for assistance.

Sample Sling Integrity Checklist: Monthly Inspection

Sling ID (sling model, model #, serial #):									
Inspected by (name and position):									
Please insert √ below to indicate if statement is accurate.			Please insert X below to indicate if statement is not accurate						
Month	ID label present	ID label	ID label	No visible damage to body of sling	No visible damage to leg bands	No visible damage to straps	No visible damage to loops or clips	Comments	PASS/ FAIL

Adapted from Prism Medical (http://www.prismmedical.ca/cmss_files/attachmentlibrary/Sling-Application-Guide-Final.pdf)