

Johns Hopkins Safety Manual	<i>Policy Number</i>	HSE 043 H
<i>Subject: prevention of musculoskeletal injuries</i>	<i>Last Review Date</i>	September 2009
Safe patient lifting and moving	<i>Page</i>	1 of 1

POLICY

The Johns Hopkins Hospital is committed to provide and maintain a safe work environment and to the prevention of musculoskeletal injuries among its staff. Care providers and staff who have the responsibility to lift or move patients are required to use proper body mechanics, staff assistance and available assistive devices as appropriate. In order to facilitate this policy the Hospital has established a Safe Lift and Move Committee. This Committee will have an equal representation of administration and employees and will be co-chaired by Nursing and HSE.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Administration

- Evaluate the recommendations of the Safe Lift and Move Committee and implement the recommendations as appropriate.
- Ensure that patient care new construction and renovation incorporate assistive devices to lift and move patients.

JCHSE

- Review and approve policies related to safe lifting and moving

Safe Lifting and Moving Committee

- Meet periodically to review changes in assistive devices and ergonomics principles of lifting and moving.
- Evaluate procedures for determining proper techniques for lifting or moving a patient
- Make recommendations to the Hospital Administration regarding safe lifting and moving.
- Report quarterly committee activities to the JCHSE.

HSE

- Conduct surveys of the work areas to evaluate lifting and moving stressors and make recommendations.
- Assist in developing training programs for staff that are required to lift and move patients and material.

OT/PT

- Develop and initiate staff training programs for safe lifting and moving patients and material.

Nursing Unit Supervisor

- Enforce the use of safe lifting and moving procedures and devices

Staff

- Use safe lifting and moving procedures and devices when appropriate.
- Use patient evaluation algorithm prior to initiating the lift or move of a patient.

REFERENCES

Chapter 57, Article 19. 377 Chapter X. Safe Patient Lifting Annotated Code of Maryland

Applications Manual for the Revised Lifting Equation, US Department of Health and Human Services, DHHS (NIOSH) Publication 94-110, NTIS, Springfield, VA 1994.

Grandjean, Etinne Fitting the Task to the Man, A Textbook of Occupational Ergonomics, 4th edition, Taylor & Fran Inc., Philadelphia, Pa 1988.

The Ergonomics Group, Health and Environmental Laboratories, Eastman Kodak Company, Ergonomic Design for People at Work, Volume 2, Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York, NY, 1986

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