



**PRAIRIE NORTH REGIONAL
HEALTH AUTHORITY**

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Number: 15001(P)
Category: Continuing Care
Title: Safety Measures for Lifting Devices and Slings

Approved by: VP Integrated Health Services

EA Jiricka

Review Date:					
Initial:					

Source: Director Continuing Care Services & Director Rural Facilities
Date Effective: May 2007

PROCEDURE

1. All slings used for lifting devices will be marked with the date put in to circulation and the identification number. In cases where the resident has their own sling the sling should be marked with the date put in to circulation and the name of the resident.
2. All slings will be washed and cared for in accordance with manufacturers instructions.
3. Care and washing instructions will be posted in the area where slings are washed.
4. All slings in use will be checked visually on a daily basis to observe for any signs of wear and tear.
5. The sling straps will be checked weekly to determine if the strap has stretched.
6. Slings showing signs of wear or where the straps have stretched will be taken out of circulation until the Facility Manager/Assistant Manager or Maintenance can determine if the sling can be repaired.
7. Facility Managers/Assistant Facility Manager will keep staff informed on manufacturers suggested life expectancy of both the lift and sling and will review the inventory of the lifts and slings on a regular basis.
8. All residents will be assessed by the appropriate personnel before any lift is performed, to ensure that the sling and lift is appropriate for the resident/client/patient size, physical abilities and according to the transfer/lifting/positioning policies.
9. Staff must visually and manually verify that all sling straps are correctly attached to lift hooks and bearing the load, before moving the resident and the lift.
10. Any slack in the straps can result in the sling becoming disconnected from the lift and will result in injury to resident and possibly staff.

Sling & Lift Safety Check

Sling Number	Date Checked	Staff Initial who Checked Sling	Comments	Manager Notified of Repairs

To be given to Facility Manager when form full. Notify Facility Manager of any repairs required at once.