

# Manual Patient Handling vs. Safe Patient Handling

Oregon Nurses Association Safe Patient Handling Program

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## Manual Lift and Transfer Tasks



### Risk Factors for Health Care Worker Injury:

- Forceful, repetitive exertion+++ (est. 1.8 tons per 8 hr shift)
- Extreme awkward postures (back, neck & arms)
- Being struck by combative, disorientated or fearful patients
- More staff required to perform the task

### Risk Factors for Patient Injury:

- Falling leading to bruising and/or broken bones
- Skin damage from shearing motion
- Increased pain and fear
- Heavier patients may be moved less frequently due to physical effort required and lack of staff available

## Safe Patient Handling Solutions Saving Caregiver Backs & Improving Patient Safety



### Benefits for Health Care Workers

#### Decreases:

- Risk of caregiver injury
- Injuries from combative patients
- Number of caregivers required to perform task

### Benefits for Patients:

- Increases patient dignity & comfort
- Reduces risk of injury to patients (skin, joints)
- Eliminates risk of patient falls when walking-the sling catches them
- Improved patient outcomes due to therapeutic benefits
- May reduce patient length of stay in hospital

Equipment brand names or manufacturers seen in this document do not constitute endorsement of the device, equipment or product by ONA or any of its member organizations. Not all equipment available for lifting and moving patients is described in this document.