# SLING INSTRUCTION SHEET BAND SLING

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

Under no circumstances should any Waverley Glen Lift System be put in the control of persons who have not received proper training in its operation. If operated improperly, this lift system can cause serious injury.

Although the lift system is designed to be operated by an attendant, it may be operated by an unattended individual, providing this person has been properly trained in the system's use. The safety of both the attendant and the individual depends upon strict adherence to the following guidelines:

- 1. All instructions pertaining to the operation of the lift system should be read prior to the system being put into use.
- 2. Do not, under any circumstances, exceed the system's standard working load.
- Prior to using the sling, make a visual inspection for signs of wear. Look for fraying, cuts, or tears in the material of both the sling's body and straps.
- 4. The sling must be positioned properly under and around the individual, to ensure a balanced lift.
- 5. The lift system is not a toy; do not use it for unsafe practices.

In facilities when more than one staff member is responsible for operating the lift system, it is imperative that all such members be trained in its proper use. A training and orientation program should be established by the facility to acquaint new caregivers with the system.

The Band Sling is designed to assist health care staff with the support and positioning of limbs. Providing proper limb support can assist staff with wound dressing, wound preparation, leg/venous wrapping, foot care, cleaning and a variety of other care related tasks.

It has been recommended, by the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses (NAON), that limb lifting be limited to a maximum of 11.1 lbs. The average weight of a 200lb. Patient leg is approx. 35-37lbs.

It is important the sling be applied as to reduce the risk of skin irritation, during the application process. Thus it is recommended that the sling be folded in 1/3 or ½, such that the strap is folded under the sling. The sling should be inserted under the leg/limb in areas of limited leg-bed contact, for example the back of the knee.

Once the sling is in place the folded portion of the leg strap can be removed gently, avoiding skin contact.

In some cases, due to limb size or technique, it may be advantageous to utilize two band slings. This may require the band slings to be moved during the procedure, but does provide maximal support.

The band sling can also be applied through the standard, log roll application method.

#### "Specialty Applications"

Due to the limited amount of material utilized in the construction of the band sling it may be an excellent choice when turning patients, elevating particular areas of the body for easier access.

- Placing under the hips may allow a slight elevation of the hips, into a slight pelvic bridge position.
- The band sling, placed under the shoulder, may allow elevation of the shoulder/torso for access to the head, scalp, hair etc.





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<u>Specialty Application:</u>
The "Band Sling" system, used for lifting/transferring is not suitable for all individuals. This method of use, requires that the client have a great degree of upper body strength, trunk control, endurance, cooperation and cognition. It is important that each client be assessed by a registered health professional prior to the use of this system for lifting and transferring. Assessment of the individual should be carried out on a regular basis to determine their continued suitability for the proper sling and transfer method.

### FROM A SEATED POSITION



 The longer band is used for the legs, while the shorter one is used for the back. Slide the leg band under one of the individual's thighs.



2. Slide the rest of the sling under the second thigh and adjust it that it's even on both sides.



3. Take the back band and slide it down the back of the individual so that it will be positioned just below the inside of the arms.



4. Gently slide the two ends of the strap through each side such that it will be positioned between the side of the chest and upper arm.



5. Attach appropriate leg and back straps to carry bar for the desired inclination. Raise the individual by pressing the 'Up Arrow', check to ensure that all straps are securely attached to the carry bar.



6. Th individual can now be raised to the desired height moved along the track to the desired location.

The "Band Sling" system is not suitable for all individuals. This system requires a great degree of upper body strength and control. A professional assessment must be completed to determine the safety and adequacy of this sling system before use.



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