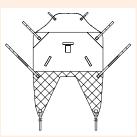
# SLING INSTRUCTION SHEET UNIVERSAL SLING

The Universal Sling design is also known as the "Quick Fit Sling" due to the ease of application or the "Horseshoe Style Sling" due to the large horseshoe shaped opening created by the leg straps. It is a multipurpose sling that provides toileting access (when clothing is removed prior to sling application) as well as good trunk and thigh support. The Universal Sling is available in a variety of fabrics.

The Universal Sling is designed to be used in conjunction with a floor lift or ceiling lift. The sling is used to lift clients from bed, wheelchair, geriatric chair, shower chair or on/off the floor. This sling can be used for clients with limited upper body function and tone. This sling serves clients with varying degrees of head and neck control as it is available with or without head support.



Universal Sling without head support



Universal Sling with head support

SIZE	MESH	QUILTED	PADDED
Junior	517205	517305	527305
with Taped H/S	517405	517505	527505
Small	517210	517310	527310
with Taped H/S	517410	517510	527510
Medium	517220	517320	527320
with Taped H/S	517420	517520	527520
Large	517230	517330	527330
with Taped H/S	517430	517530	527530
X-Large	517240	517340	527340
with Taped H/S	517440	517540	527540
XX-Large	517250	517350	527350
with Taped H/S	517450	517550	527550

#### **LEAVE IN PLACE**

THIS SLING IS NOT SUITABLE TO LEAVE UNDER THE PATIENT. The Universal Sling is available in multiple fabrics - Mesh, Quilted and Padded.

The decision to leave a sling in place must be based on strong clinical reasoning and the rationale should be documented. A trained professional should always perform a risk assessment to determine the sling application method, design, and fabric to be used.

Always refer to your institutional policies and procedures to ensure appropriate precautions are being followed.

### **APPLYING THE SLING**

### WHEN THE CLIENT IS SITTING DOWN:

- 1. Ask the client to lean forward. If the client cannot do this by him/herself, gently bring him/her forward using the sling behind the shoulders to assist you.
- 2. Apply the sling:
  - a. Tuck the sling down behind the client's back with the tag on the outside
  - b. The bottom edge should fall just below the tailbone
  - c. Let the rest of the sling slide down between the client's back and the chair back
- 3. Tuck the leg bands under the client's thighs and pull tightly to ensure that they are of equal length
- 4. At the base of the leg section strap there is a loop. Bring the straps together by passing one strap through the loop
- 5. Bring the top of the sling in line with the client's shoulders
- 6. Attach the loops on the straps to the carry bar on the lift
  - a. Make sure you use the same colour loops on both sides of the sling
  - b. Remember: Short loops for Shoulders, and Long loops for Legs if you want the client to be lifted in an upright seated position
  - c. Ensure loops remain securely attached to the carry bar as you













# SLING INSTRUCTION SHEET UNIVERSAL SLING

#### WHEN THE CLIENT IS LYING DOWN:

- 1. Assist the client to roll onto his or her side have him or her help as much as possible.
- 2. Position the sling underneath the client:
  - a. Fold the sling in half lengthwise with the tag on the outside
  - b. Place the folded edge 2 inches away from the client and then tuck the top layer under the client's back
  - c. Bottom edge should be at the tailbone and top edge at the shoulders
  - d. Ask the client to roll onto his or her back then walk around to the other side of the bed
  - e. Ask the client to roll away from you just enough that you can pull the tucked flap flat onto the bed
  - f. Ask the client to roll onto his or her back
- 3. Tuck the leg bands under the client's thighs and pull tightly to ensure that they are of equal length
- 4. At the base of the leg section strap there is a loop. Bring the straps together by passing one strap through the loop. Now raise the top of the sling level with the person's shoulders
- 5. Bring the top of the sling in line with the client's shoulders
- 6. Attach the loops on the straps to the carry bar on the lift
  - a. Make sure you use the same colour loops on both sides of the sling
  - b. Remember: Short loops for Shoulders, and Long loops for Legs if you want the client to be lifted in an upright seated position
  - c. Ensure loops remain securely attached to the carry bar as you lift.

#### LIFTING FROM THE FLOOR:

Before commencing the manoeuvre, introduce a pillow to ensure the client is comfortable. Follow the procedures 1-2 as above to fit the sling. If using a mobile lift, introduce the lift sling using the method approved in your local area so that the carry bar is positioned correctly above the client.









# LIFTING THE CLIENT

1. a. Begin lifting the client:



- b. Have the client operate the hand control if possible
- c. Once you have reached the point at which there is tension on the straps but the client has not yet been lifted off of the surface, STOP THE LIFT.
- d. Make sure all straps are securely fastened to the carry bar and that the sling has not shifted position on the client's body (i.e., it is not slipping up the client's back and there are no folds or wrinkles in the sling fabric). If you notice anything of concern, stop the lift, and reassess the situation.
- 2. Transfer the client to the receiving surface

# WASHING INSTRUCTIONS

The sling should be inserted into a washing/laundry bag prior to being placed into the washer. This is to prevent any unusual wear and tear of the sling by the agitator and/or other parts of the washing machine.











Note: The Universal Slings are made from Polyester materials. This sling should last 3 to 5 years with normal use and care. Always follow general guidelines before use. Discard the sling if any tears or serious defects are found.

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

Only people who have received proper training should attempt to use Prism Medical's Lift Systems. Improper use can lead to serious injury.

Please read and adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1. Read all lift instructions before using.
- 2. Do not exceed safe weight capacity.
- 3. Visually inspect the sling prior to using it (check for fraying, cuts, or tears to straps and/or material).
- 4. A balanced fit is a safe fit: position the sling under and around the individual.
- 5. Do not use the lift systems for anything but their stated purpose.

All Prism Medical's loop-style slings are compatible with our complete range of carry bars.

To ensure anyone using Prism Medical's Lift Systems is properly trained, an on-going training program should be established. Contact your Prism Medical representative should you have further questions.

