

Selecting the Sling

The Universal Sling is designed to support the patient from waist to shoulder while allowing the arms to move freely so that the hands can reach naturally to grip the lifting boom as the patient rises.

As the boom of the Lifter is raised to a relaxed upright position, the sling behaves so naturally in its follow-through support, that the high lifting speed of the Lifter allows patients who can sometimes stand by themselves to be safely followed up by the sling they are actually wearing.

For Everyday Lifting

The Universal Sling features keyhole buckles at the front of the sling for fitting directly to the pins on the lifting boom.

There are two styles of fastening available for the torso band in the Universal Sling range:

Universal Sling with Buckle Fastening - Available in Medium, Large and Extra Large sizes as standard. The torso band of the sling can be easily adjusted and securely fastened with the use of a side-release buckle.

Medium [Product Code 17610]
Large [Product Code 17611]
Extra Large [Product Code 17613]

Universal Sling with Velcro Fastening - One size fits most. A three-way wrap-over velcro fastening design ensures a fast and secure fit of the torso band for most sized patients.

[Product Code 17612]

Sling Care

Slings should be checked for signs of wear or fatigue before each use. A detailed and overall visual inspection of slings should be carried out on a regular basis.

Examination of Webbing / Straps and Belts

General External Wear - In normal use, this is unavoidable and is shown by a fluffiness of the surface fibres of fabrics. This is harmless unless it becomes too extensive.

Local Abrasion - This may be caused by the passage of webbing over sharp edges or protrusions whilst under tension. Slight damage to outer fibres may be considered safe but more severe cases, particularly reductions in width or thickness or weave pattern distortions to the webbing, should lead to instant rejection of the product.

Cuts, Holes or Burns in the Webbing - These are potentially dangerous and must lead to instant rejection of the product.

Chemical Attack - Oil, grease, creosote or paint stains are harmless but other forms of chemical attack of a sufficient degree may lead to deterioration or extreme softening of the webbing, which would lead to the fibres being rubbed off (almost as a powder in extreme cases). It is best to avoid fumes, spray or mists of acids and alkalis or organic solvents. If contamination is suspected, wash out well in warm water. Avoid contact with excessive heat which is likely to affect the product.

Examination of Fittings (Buckles, "D" Rings, etc) - Carefully examine all fittings for absence of significant levels of rust, distortion, cracks and ease of adjustment. Buckles should be checked for keeper operation and that the locking/unlocking mechanism opens and closes freely. Check buckles for ease of adjustment and absence of sharp edges or burrs likely to abrade the webbing.

Examination of Stitch Patterns - Examine stitch patterns for broken, worn, pulled or unraveled stitches. Reject any product where the thread has become subject to excessive abrasion or broken stitches.

Cleaning - Certain chemical substances mentioned above may be removed by a diluted heavy duty cleaner and warm water. Ensure that any cleaning agents are removed by rinsing thoroughly in warm water and allowed to dry naturally away from any source of direct heat. For normal washing and cleaning, follow the care instructions on the label of the product.

Storage - Slings should be stored away from direct sunlight where they are not subjected to unnecessary strain, stress or pressure or to excessive heat or humidity. The slings should be kept away from contact with sharp implements, corrosives or other possible causes of damage.

IF IN DOUBT ABOUT THE CONDITION OF A SLING DO NOT USE IT.
Contact your distributor for inspection of the product for advice regarding replacement.

Universal Sling With Keyhole Fitting



For use with:
Reliant RPS440ee Lifter
Elf Stand Up Lifter (Discontinued)

**THE UNIVERSAL SLING IS DESIGNED FOR
USE WITH THE FOLLOWING LIFTERS ONLY:**

**RELIANT RPS440ee
PRO-MED ELF STAND-UP**

PRO-MED AUSTRALIA PTY LTD ABN 71 072 489 484
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Sling Instructions

Lifting Procedures

IMPORTANT: THE SUITABILITY OF A STAND-UP LIFTER FOR A PARTICULAR PATIENT MAY VARY, EVEN ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS. THEREFORE, COMFORT AND SECURITY OF A PATIENT WHEN USING A STAND-UP LIFTER SHOULD BE CONSTANTLY ASSESSED.

Fitting the Sling

Fit the sling to the patient before wheeling the lifter into position to carry out the lift.

Lean the patient forward and position the sling around the patient's back with the torso band against the patient.

The sling should be centred so that equal lengths of sling extend forward under the arms.

Fasten the torso band firmly around the patient's chest. The padding should sit comfortably under the patient's arms.

Positioning the Lifter

If necessary, widen the legs of the Lifter to gain better access to the patient. It is safe for lifting and transporting with the base in a widened position.

Wheel the Lifter up to the patient and lift his/her feet onto the footplate.

Aim to have the patient's lower leg approximately vertical. To achieve this, move the patient's feet either back or forth on the footplate or gently push the lifter a little closer to the patient.

When lower legs are vertical, the kneepad should be making gentle contact.

Pass the calf strap behind the patient's legs and secure with the buckle. Tension by pulling on the loose end of the strap.

If not required for patients with significant weight bearing ability, the calf strap may be completely removed or passed behind the kneepad for storage.

Attaching the Sling

Fasten the keyhole buckles at the front of the sling to the pins on the lifting boom. The longer buckles are likely to be appropriate in most circumstances. The shorter buckles would be useful for very tall patients.

Standing the Patient

The Universal Sling is designed to bring a patient to fully-upright standing position.

The lifter stands the patient quickly and smoothly for both transferring and dressing.

If the patient is fully standing, cleaning and adjusting clothing is simple and fast. The carer does not have to lean over awkwardly and the process is more dignified.

There is a known clinical benefit for many patients in supported and safe weight bearing. The lifter allows the patient to stand completely upright at every transfer. When fully standing, the load is transferred from the sling through to the feet, which makes the sling feel far more comfortable and helps the patient to relax.

Raise the patient by pressing the UP button on the handset.

Patients may push off the armrest of their chair as the lift commences then transfer one hand at a time to the lifting boom. However, it is not essential for the patient to be able to hang on.

Stand beside the patient during the lift, particularly on a weak side if one exists. Support the patient under the weak arm to provide greater confidence.

Look closely at the sling position during the lift. Ensure that it is not putting undue pressure under the arms or causing the patient discomfort.

If necessary to adjust the sling, stop the lift. This is safer and the patient will feel more comfortable.

Continue the lift until the patient is fully standing. The patient will remain well supported by the sling.

Moving the Patient

The Stand Up Lifter is designed to transfer people distances spanning no more than a few metres - typically chair to chair - i.e. transfers occurring in the same room. The relatively small castors on any patient lifter make moving the patient any distance quite difficult.

If possible, always move patients from room to room in a wheelchair or on a trolley.

If you must move a patient while supported by a stand-up lifter, it is recommended that an optional Transfer Seat is used [Product Code 75220].

Note the following tips for safer maneuvering:

When maneuvering in a small area, two carers will make the job much easier, one carer pushes the lifter while the second carer stands with the patient and helps move the patient into the desired position.

To change direction or steer around corners, always walk the back of the machine around so that it is heading in the new direction then push or pull in a straight line.

Always look at the patient during the transfer, it is possible for patients to become distressed or even in some cases go into muscle spasm during transfer. Be aware that some patients new to sling lifting may be quite uneasy.

WARNING

PRIOR TO USE, INSPECT SLINGS INCLUDING WEBBING, STRAPS AND BUCKLES FOR WEAR. EXAMINE STITCHING FOR FRAYING, BREAKAGE AND UNRAVELING

DAMAGED SLINGS SHOULD NOT BE USED.

IF IN DOUBT, DO NOT USE.

(Refer "Sling Care" for detailed maintenance recommendations.)