

# Disposable patient transfer sheet

Country of origin | United Kingdom

## Health problem addressed

During a typical shift, on average a hospital staff nurse will lift 20 patients into bed, and transfer 5-10 patients from bed to a chair. Lightweight and inexpensive but high quality and immensely strong - as well as assisting in the prevention of cross infection, the Disposable Patient Transfer sheet has been designed to make patient handling both easy and safe, helping prevent back strain and injury to the staff transferring patients and is single-use thus reducing cross-contamination



## Product description

This product is a single use patient transfer slide sheet ideal for departments across the hospital and to help reduce cross-contamination. This can be used in a hospital, nursing home or community setting to avoid lifting patients manually any more. It is acceptable to give a patient some support, or to perform horizontal moves with a sliding aid, if this is done according to agreed safer handling principles.

## Developer's claims of products benefits

A few reports in the literature have suggested that textiles may have been the source of patient infections, including staphylococcal and Bacillus cereus colonization, infection in newborns and antibiotic-resistant organisms. Single-use textiles are used daily as protective barriers in a majority of hospitals. In today's healthcare environment, safety, barrier qualities, cost and infection prevention are key words of supreme importance in patient care. Single-use products meet these challenges.

## Suitability for low-resource settings

The RCN looked at the relative expense to introduce such devices into everyday practice. They found that hospitals have traditionally assumed that it would be far too expensive to provide enough handling equipment to even consider a radical change in lifting policy. In fact, costs are not that great and the cost of not tackling the issue is likely to be much greater. There are additional and potentially very high costs associated with the problems of reusable linen used for manual handling.

## Operating steps

Start with single use transfer sheet under supine patient. Two staff stand on one side, roll the patient onto the side, staff at the opposite side to insert the patslide under sheet. With a walking stance, two staff push supine patient to the middle only. Two staff pull supine patient over to the receiving surface.

## Regulatory status

The product is produced in an ISO-9001 registered facility. It holds CE certificates and technical files. The product, registered with the Department of Health and this CE number with the MHRA is CA 012543. The European Declaration of Conformity Certificate is attached.

## Product functionality

No one working in a hospital, nursing home or community setting to avoid lifting patients manually. It is acceptable to give a patient some support, or to perform horizontal moves with a sliding aid, if this is done according to agreed safer handling principles. The use of transfer assist devices must be considered as a possible source of infection or contamination of workers' hands; consequently, these devices should be suitably designed and made of appropriate materials. This product is single-patient use to reduce cross-contamination.

## Future work and challenges

Supply of product to low-resource settings requires activities of transportation, procurement, inventory control, distribution management, and customer service. Distributors will only make a limited commitment to creating the new product market, because at some point the supplier may choose a different distributor or go direct. Therefore the new product markets are never fully developed in this route to market. The distributor simply delivers other companies ideas and generally only reacts if someone else has already done so. They can be reactive and expensive and do not necessarily add value for the end customer

## Use and maintenance

**User:** Intended for use by physician, technician, nurse, or midwife

**Training:** Minimal training required as device is easy to use and understand

**Maintenance:** None

## Environment of use

**Setting:** Rural, Urban, Outdoors, Indoors, and in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Levels of Care

**Energy and Facility Requirements:** Incineration Facilities

## Product specifications

**Weight (kg):** 0.1kg

**Dimensions:** 850mm x 1000mm x 1mm

**Lifetime:** 10 years

**Shelf Life:** 10 years

**Retail price (USD):** 3

**Other features:** Single-use technology

**Year of commercialization:** 2013

**Currently sold in:** Europe

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