

# **Avoid Patient Handling Injuries and Penalties.**

### **Understanding OSHA Requirements**

Manual lifting of patients is causing high injury rates among healthcare workers. In response, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has announced new requirements. Facilities in every state now need safe patient handling equipment, training and programs to avoid fines up to \$70,000. You need to prepare for OSHA inspections. We can help you to know you're inspection ready:

#### **Safe Patient Handling Program**

We can help you prepare for every question OSHA compliance officers ask during evaluations (see p. 2).

Our effective tools help train your staff to recognize and avoid hazards, and report injuries associated with patient handling.

- » In-service videos
- » Patient handling instructions
- » Competency checklists
- » Return on investment calculations
- » Program guidelines tool

#### **Assistive Devices and Supplies**

Our comprehensive selection includes patient handling products to meet your needs and budget.

Slings, transfer sheets and pads—at least one of the appropriate type and size per person who needs one, and enough extras for laundering and repair.

Mechanical lifts, sit-to-stand assists, walk assists—CDC recommends one full-body lift for every eight to ten non-weight bearing people; one stand-assist lift for every eight to ten partially weight bearing people.<sup>2</sup>

Batteries—Have enough on hand to support all lifts necessary per shift.

## Have the answer for every question compliance officers ask.

#### **Evaluation Questions** Where to Find Answers Asked during OSHA evaluations Components of our SPH Program PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Is there a system for identifying and analyzing hazards? » Pre-Implementation Assessment Is there a system for developing strategies to address those hazards? Who has the responsibility and authority for administering this system? » Program Guidelines What are the credentials or experience of the individual responsible for administering the program? » Program Guidelines Tool What input have employees provided in the development of the establishment's lifting, transferring, » Annual Assessment or repositioning procedures? Is there a system for monitoring compliance with the establishment's policies and procedures » Annual Assessment and following up on deficiencies? Are there records of recent changes in policies/procedures and an evaluation of the effect they » Program Guidelines Tool have had on resident handling injuries and illnesses? » Pre and Post Assessments PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION » Safe Patient Handling and How is patient mobility determined and how is the mobility determination communicated to staff? **Movement Instructions** » Laminated Instruction Guides What is the decision logic for selection and use of lift, transfer, or repositioning devices? » In-Service Videos » Movement Instructions When and under what circumstances may manual lift, transfer or repositioning occur? » Lifting Competencies Who decides how to lift, transfer, or reposition patients/residents? » Medline University CE Safe Patient **Handling Courses** Is there is an adequate quantity and variety of appropriate lift, transfer or reposition assistive devices available and operational? Are there adequate numbers of supplies such as: slings, batteries, and charging stations for » Pre-Implementation Assessment lifting devices? » Annual Assessment Are there appropriate quantities and types of the assistive devices available within close proximity and maintained in a usable and sanitary condition? **EMPLOYEE TRAINING** Have employees been trained in the recognition of ergonomic hazards associated with manual » Laminated Instruction Guides

patient lifting, transferring, or repositioning, the early reporting of injuries, and the establishment's process for abating those hazards?

Have the employees been trained in proper techniques and procedures to avoid exposure to ergonomic risk factors and can they demonstrate competency in performing the lift, transfer, or repositioning task using the assistive device?

- » In-Service Videos
- » Medline University Safe Patient **Handling CE Courses**
- » Lifting Competencies
- » Quizzes

To learn more about our SPH program, or to schedule a free safe patient handling assessment to determine your facility's level of compliance, contact your Medline Representative today.



Medline Industries, Inc.

