**Generic Load Moving and Handling Risk Assessment Form**

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| **Site / Hospital** | NHSGGC Generic | **Reference No.** | **MH060312** |
| **Department** | Moving and Handling | **Date of Assessment** | 11/2/2009 |
| **Assessor** | Cameron Raeburn, *Moving and Handling Service Lead* | **Line Manager** | Kenneth Fleming, *Head of Health & Safety* |
| **Operation / Activity Being Assessed** |
| Compatibility of passive lifting slings and passive lifting hoists, specifically the use of 3rd party slings (both reusable and disposable) and the interface between the hoist and the sling. This Risk Assessment does not incorporate the risks associated with choosing the appropriate sling for a clients needs, that is, the sling / client interface, which should be risk assessed on an individual client basis and recorded within the care plan / individual risk assessment. |
| **Manual Handling Risks Associated With The Activity**List hazards associated with lifting, lowering, pushing, pulling, twisting, carrying and working in an awkward posture. The risks involved may include issues relating to; the **Task** – carrying long distances, stooping twisting etc; the **Load** – heavy, unstable, sharp, hot etc; the **Environment** – space, flooring, lighting etc; the  **Individual** – previous / current health problems, pregnancy etc. |
| Passive lifting hoists can be divided into two main categories, those that require ‘loop’ slings and those that require ‘clip’ slings:1. Work hoi_0**Passive lifting hoists requiring clip slings.**

Within NHSGGC, these hoists will include; * most Arjo hoists e.g. Maximove, Maxicombi, Maxilift, Maxitwin, Tempo, Opera, Dextra, Trixie and Maxi Sky hoists using a 4 point spreader bar.
* some Oxford hoists e.g. the Presence hoist using a 4 point spreader bar

For these types of hoists there is an engineering precision required to match the width of the ‘bolt’ (lug) on the hoist to the ‘gap’ on the clip on the sling. If the gap is too narrow the effort required to put the sling onto the hoist and remove the sling is too large with the potential of upper limb and back symptoms developing. However, if the gap is too wide there is a risk that the sling will become unclipped from the hoist as it is not being securely held, with the potential for the client to fall during hoisting.1. Work hoi_0**Passive lifting hoists requiring loop slings.**

Within NHSGGC, these hoists will include;* all LIKO hoists e.g. Golvo, Viking and Uno ranges using a 2 point hook spreader bar
* all Molift hoists e.g. Partner hoist using a 2 point hook spreader bar
* all Huntleigh hoists e.g. Porta and Tx hoists using a 2 or 4 point hook spreader bar
* all Guldmann hoists e.g. GH3 hoist using a 2 point hook spreader bar

 * most Oxford hoists e.g. Major, Midi, Maxi, Mini, Presence and Advance hoists using a 2 point hook spreader bar;
* some Arjo hoists e.g. Tenor, Maxi Sky hoists using a 2 or 4 point hook spreader bar
* some Helping Hands hoists e.g. Swan and Pen hoists using a 2 point hook spreader bar

There are no specific risks with using any of the above manufacturers looped slings designed for use with the described 2 or 4 point hook spreader bars with any of the manufacturers above hook hoists that use a single spreader bar (see picture). This assessment is based on the range of sling styles and sizes produced by any of the above manufacturers for their own range of differing hoist sizes and the compatibility requirements inherent within these design variances.1. Safe Working Loads (SWL) on the sling and the hoist to be used are likely to be different, as over time the SWL of hoists and slings have changed. This could lead to a client being hoisted in a hoist which has a SWL greater than the clients weight but a sling with a SWL lower than the clients weight (or vice versa) leading to the potential failure of the sling or hoist.
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| **Control measures Required** |
| **1. & 2.** Safe systems of work must be implemented by local managers, particularly in areas where hoists requiring ’clip’ slings are in use. These systems should include;* Ensuring that only one manufacturer of hoists requiring ‘clip’ style slings is available within any one location;
* Reusable (fabric) ‘clip’ style slings - ensure that where hoists requiring ‘clip’ style slings are used, only slings from the same manufacturer as the hoist are used;
* Disposable ‘clip’ style slings - ensure that where hoists requiring ‘clip’ style slings are used, either the slings from the same manufacturer as the hoist or disposable ‘clip’ slings by Oxford or Lisclare (Polyweave) are used, both of these manufacturers have been assessed as compatible with Arjo Hoists;
* If there are any concerns about the style of hoist and / or slings currently being used and their compatibility, the Moving and Handling Team must be approached for advice;
* Ensure all staff can identify the different main types of hoists and slings (clip and loop) and the implications of compatibility;
* Ensure this information is clearly displayed close to sling storage area if bank, agency or ‘occasional’ staff are likely to be using the hoisting equipment.
1. All staff must be made aware that the hoist and sling Safe Working Loads (SWL’s) may differ and be able to demonstrate how to identify the SWL’s of both, to ensure that the client’s weight is checked against the lowest SWL.
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| **Risk Level** | **LOW** | **X** | **MEDIUM** |  | **HIGH** |  | **Very High** |  |  |
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| **Date** | 11/2/09 | 23/11/2010 | 6/3/2012 |  |
| **Signature** | C Raeburn | C Raeburn | C Raeburn |  |
| **Proposed review date** | 1/3/010 | 23/11/2011 | 6/3/2013 |  |