

HOISTS AND SLINGS

Hoists

Hoists can be divided into three categories:

- Fixed, floor mounted hoists are used mainly for bathing. They can be hydraulically, mechanically or electrically operated and be useful where space is limited
- Overhead hoists are usually mechanically operated. They may be fixed permanently or mounted on mobile frames
- Mobile hoists are the largest of the three categories, and can be operated by hydraulics, electrically or gear winding mechanisms

Principles of Good Hoist and Sling Use

- Wear appropriate clothing and footwear
- Assess the client before hoist lifting, is the client suitable for hoist lift
- Always select the appropriate hoist, sling and attachments for the task in hand
- Check that the sling and hoist are in good condition
- Explain the manoeuvre to the client and others assisting
- Prepare handling area, have enough room for safe operation of the hoist
- Practice any manoeuvre before client use to confirm adequate spatial area
- Place client in the centre of sling, apply correct procedures
- Ensure the sling is at full taut, and not creased to avoid dangerous manoeuvre
- Attach sling to the hoist correctly
- Re-explain procedure to client for further reassurance
- Raise and transfer the client smoothly and efficiently
- Always have another carer available to prevent untoward swings or sudden movement
- Minimise the amount of time that the client is in the hoist
- Make comfort a part of the process
- Ensure that client is manoeuvred into correct position to prevent further action
- Prevent sling causing damage to skin by correct application and removal
- Report any concerns about the hoist or sling
- Always check that the hoist has been serviced at the appropriate time

Trainee Name

Read, Understood and Signed Date / /

Assessor Signed Competent [Y] [N]