

MONTHLY

UC Medical Center SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Poster of the Month

*Practical Tips to Help You Keep
Yourself, Your Co-workers and Your
UC Campus Safe, Healthy and Secure*

FEBRUARY 2018

Safe Patient Handling and Mobility

Safe Patient Handling

Prior to Arrival (PLAN):

Review the patient's prior assistance needs if available; ensure you have the needed equipment (lift and slings) prior to start; ensure you have enough assistance and have been trained on the minimal lift equipment.

Upon Arrival (THINK):

Anticipate patient's mobility status may have changed since last assessment and perform a mobility assessment. If the patient's status has changed: Stop and establish new SPH Plan for mobilization. Gather any additional equipment or persons needed to complete the task prior to starting task.

During the Patient Handling Task (DO):

Communicate to the patient, and as a team, the SPH plan and why.

After the Patient Handling Task (ACT):

How did it go? Any changes to the SPH Plan need to be communicated/ documented? If not the RN, does any information need to be provided to the RN on the SPH task or patient status?



Mobility: Benefits of Increased Activity During Hospitalization

Decrease length of stay and improve discharge disposition (home vs. rehab or skilled nursing).

Reduce the risk of hospital acquired complications: pressure ulcers, falls, blood clots, pneumonia, delirium, and debility. Can also reduce need for pain medications.

Patients report minimal lift equipment can be more comfortable than manual handling and some patients able to tolerate more activity with equipment.

Decreased re-admissions for patients (leave stronger > stay home).

Improving patient outcomes and reducing risk of injury to staff through Safe Patient Handling and Mobility best practices

Safe Patient Handling is the use of minimal lift equipment, or other resources, to significantly reduce the risk of harm to patients and staff during patient handling tasks.

Mobility is physical activity to improve physical function. Mobility during a hospitalization can have a significant impact on patient harms and outcomes.

Safe Patient Handling and Mobility (SPHM) is combining Safe Patient Handling practices as part of patient mobility programs to significantly reduce the risk of medical complications during hospitalization, reduce the risk of injuries to patients and staff, and improve the overall patient outcome and experience.