

Safe Patient Handling Equipment: HoverMatt® & Positioning Wedges

SKILLS CHECKLIST FOR TURNING AND WEDGE PLACEMENT

Equipment: HoverMatt	Name: (print)
Validator (print):	Date:
	Patient Care Unit/Dept.:

	<i>Performance Criteria</i>	<i>Validator Initials</i>
	To turn patient onto his/her side:	
1.	Minimum of (2) caregivers must be present, one on each side of patient, to perform turn, boost, and reposition tasks. Raises patient surface to appropriate ergonomic height. Locks wheels of bed/stretcher before inflating HoverMatt or moving patient. Ensures patient surface is flat. Plugs air supply power cord into wall. Positions HoverMatt with head and foot indicators.	
2.	Positions air supply and wedges within reach of caregiver opposite the side toward which the patient will turn (the “primary turner”). Ensures second caregiver is positioned on opposite side of bed.	
3.	Centers patient on HoverMatt and ensures head support. Ensures safety straps are out of the way and not beneath patient.	
4.	Lowers side rail(s) on primary turner’s side of bed	
5.	If patient is able and hip precautions are not in effect, the patient should be instructed to bend the knee opposite the side toward which they are turning OR cross their legs at the ankle with the leg opposite the side toward which they are turning on top. The patient can also be instructed to reach the hand opposite the side toward which they are turning across their body and place it on the shoulder toward which they are turning. If these positions cannot be tolerated, the patient can remain in the supine position.	
6.	Verbally prepares patient for sound and sensation of mattress inflation	
7.	Second caregiver presses down with fists on HoverMatt next to patient’s shoulder and hip. Primary turner begins inflation of HoverMatt. As air begins to enter the HoverMatt, the primary turner gently pulls up on the handles causing the patient to turn toward the second caregiver. As the patient turns, the second caregiver releases pressure from the HoverMatt and raises hands to the patient’s shoulder and hip. This prevents over-rotation of patient.	
8.	Second caregiver continues to support patient on side while primary turner informs patient of deflation, deflates HoverMatt, and again ensures that safety clasps are not left under the patient.	

9.	Primary turner places wedges between the patient and the HoverMatt approximately 3" above and 3" below the sacrum. The patient's sacrum should be in the gap between the two (2) Wedges and both caregivers ensure patient is properly positioned.	
	Lowers the patient down onto the Wedges, making sure the safety straps are out from underneath the HoverMatt.	
11.	Returns side rail(s) to up position and lowers bed.	
12.	Raises the head of the bed as appropriate	

The above skills have been successfully demonstrated:	I agree with the Validator that I have successfully performed the above skills:
Validator (signature above)	Trainee/Employee (signature above)