

USER GUIDE – GLOVE AIRFLOW SLING

This user guide gives basic advice about using the Glove Airflow sling. It is not a substitute for proper training. If in doubt about any aspect of sling use, consult your Occupational Therapist, Moving and Handling advisor or another competent person. Professionals, if in doubt, please contact your supplier.



1 Before use, check that the sling is in good condition and appropriate to the users size.

Position the sling by rolling the user into the recovery position as shown above. Always roll the user towards yourself if possible. Align the sling along their length and tuck it under them from their back towards their front, until the longitudinal centre of the sling aligns with the user's spine. Roll them back onto a supine position and then into the recovery position facing the other side of the bed. Carefully pull the sling through underneath them. Roll them back onto a supine position. Check the alignment of the sling and reposition if required.



2 Feed the leg supports carefully between the users thighs.

The leg supports can be linked for comfort by feeding one leg support through the webbing "cuff" on the outside of the other leg support.

The leg supports can be formed into a cradle for users with above knee amputations. The leg lift straps should be crossed for safe lifting when used this way.

Pass the leg lift straps through the leg link straps. As illustrated above.



3 Attach the leg straps to the hoist spreader bar first, reducing the risk of it being pulled towards the user, particularly while they are sat in a chair. Then attach the shoulder straps.



ADJUSTMENT

Using the full length of the leg lift strap will provide the most upright sitting position. Using the loops in the leg lift straps will recline the user, a reclined posture is usually more comfortable but may make positioning in a chair more difficult. Moving and handling advisors teach techniques that make good positioning easier.

CHECKS BEFORE LIFTING

Operate the hoist to tension the straps then, before lifting, check to ensure that the sling is not snagged on the bed, chair or anywhere else and that any straps securing the user to the chair have been released.

Operate the hoist to make the transfer. For comfort and tissue viability integrity this sling has no steering handles. Hold the leg lift straps where they attach to the sling for steering and positioning the user into a chair.



Whilst the user is in a chair the straps can be neatly folded into the elasticated pockets.



Take care with the hoist/spreader bar, impact with it could cause injury.

Care

No sling must ever be used to lift more than its rated load (see label)

If a sling is worn or damaged its strength will be reduced and it must be replaced.

To maximise the life of your sling, wash gently at **40C**. The sling can be washed at up to 95C for infection control purposes if necessary. Use a mild soap solution or a non biological detergent. Do not use bleach or other cleaning agents that may weaken the fabric. Air dry or tumble dry on a cool cycle. Just like a garment, a sling will last longer if well cared for.

The Airflow sling is intended to be "user specific". If you propose to use this slings with more than one person you are advised to consult an infection control specialist on how to avoid the risk of cross infection.

If a chestband is added, the hook and loop tape should be closed before washing to avoid damaging the material.

The condition of the sling should be checked before each use, particularly around strap attachment points.

All slings should be thoroughly examined by a competent person and the details recorded at least every six months in accordance with the requirements of the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER)1998

Returns

If you need to return this sling, please contact your supplier for their procedure.

There is a legal requirement to ensure that items sent by mail, or other carrier, are clean and that there is no risk of infection to handlers or recipients. Dirty slings returned to your supplier cannot be returned to sender and regrettably must be disposed of at senders cost.

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THIS GUIDE MUST BE READ IN FULL BEFORE USING THE SLING

Model Number-Size GAIR - ____

Serial Number _____

Maximum Load _____ **Kg**

Purpose and Suitability

Because of the variation of needs between individuals it is recommended that an assessment is conducted by an Occupational Therapist or other competent person to ensure suitability.

The Glove Airflow sling is designed to be used in situations where a sling cannot be fitted whilst a user is in their wheelchair and when, to facilitate safe handling, a person needs to sit on the sling for an extended time. If in doubt of its suitability to an individual, you are advised to consult a Clinical Professional with tissue viability knowledge.

If the user requires additional neck support, a bolster cushion is available as an accessory which can be inserted into the neck sleeve.

Hoist Compatibility

These slings are compatible with most types of hoists and spreader bar but not all. If in doubt please contact Care and Independence Systems or your supplier for a list of compatible hoists.

Important Safety precautions

Slings and hoists must only be used by competent persons after appropriate training in accordance with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (1998)

Always use the safety pommel and attach sling by 6 straps as illustrated

Check that the sling is in good condition prior to each use.

The sling must be examined by a competent person at least every 6 months and records retained for inspection in accordance with the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (1998)