



MEDACO[®]

support | equip | service

Hoist

Ultimate assessment
guidelines



INTRODUCTION

Medaco, is a UK's leading single solution for the servicing, maintenance and replacement of patient handling equipment.

Resources Hub has been developed to offer safe, non-complex and cost-effective solutions that closely meet the requirements of the community and residential healthcare environments.

[This resource](#) is intended to help you evaluate a patient for the selection of a suitable hoist and sling and select the right servicing provider for your needs.

All assessment and equipment selection needs to incorporate balanced decisions. Elements include client need, the needs of the organisation providing the equipment, as well as the needs and capability of the person that will operate the equipment. Whilst also considering the Return On Investment (ROI) and the routine upkeep of equipment and Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM).



HEALTH AND SAFETY INDUCTION

Requirements for good practice are set out legislatively:

- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992, amended 2004.
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Mental Capacity Act 2005

- Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) 1998
- Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) 1998
- The Care Act 2014

Comprehensive risk assessments must be carried out. It must also be reviewed systematically'.

A suitable and competent written risk assessment must be achieved in accordance with the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 and an up to date handling/hoisting plan must be in place.

The risk assessment should cover

- Name of hoist
- Name of sling
- Size of the sling and the loop configuration.

The risk assessment must be reviewed and updated regularly.

This is especially significant if the client's physical and/or cognitive (mental) the condition will change.



KEY RISK ASSESSMENT TEACHINGS

The individual appointing equipment or servicing solutions should consider the following within their written risk assessment.

Each risk evaluation process can be used when assessing for equipment and should always be carried out before undertaking any new moving and handling procedure e.g. before the first use of equipment.

"It is important that the equipment is demonstrated, and that the user carrying out the task is trained and competent to use the equipment safely"

The assessment should consider five elements:

- Task
- Individual
- Load
- Environment
- Equipment

KEY ASSESSMENT ELEMENTS

"Actively focusing on the key five assessment elements is vital to ensuring to select, handle and maintain equipment safely and effectively - securing your return of investment in the long run."

TASK

Identify the task – for example transfer from floor to bed, bed to toilet

Consider the frequency of the task – every day,

number of times per day?

What equipment will be involved in the task, bed, chair, commode, shower chair, wheelchair?

Consider manual handling – eliminate heavy pushing, pulling, twisting, over reaching and bending

LOAD (PERSON BEING LIFTED)

Assessment of height

Weight and BMI

Sitting balance and trunk (upper body) control

Any limb amputation or evaluation of body shape

Medical conditions/skin conditions

Compliance and behaviour

Medical attachments, for example catheters or stoma

SETTING (WHERE IS THE EQUIPMENT TO BE USED)

Check there is adequate space in which the procedure will take place

Check there is ample lighting in the engaged area

Check there is sufficient headroom to carry out the operation

EQUIPMENT BEING PROVIDED AND USED

Examine the model of each hoist, mobile versus gantry or ceiling system

Reflect sling choice according to the level of the persons function and disability

Study type of fabric according to the person's

skin integrity

Evaluate the safe working load of equipment and sling

Ensure the users know when equipment is due for a service and who to reach should

there be an equipment malfunction

Will it be necessary to use one manufacturer's

sling with another manufacturer's hoist?

Consider turning circle within the room that the equipment is being used. Check there is

sufficient space to use a hoist

Check the flooring is level, smooth and free from trip hazards



LOLER SOLUTIONS

Our LOLER regulations (Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations) solution to help you effectively maintain compliance.

Medaco's qualified field service engineers carry out these inspections as part of our core service. Service Contract clients will usually receive inspections every 6 months, but our services can also be accessed as a non-contracted service.

Our solution:

- LOLER reports
- Patient Equipment Audit Reviews (PEAR Reports)
- Risk assessments
- Equipment maintenance

Discover how Medaco can seamlessly help you remain compliant, avoid downtime and work with you to provide the best care to your clients calling us on; [033 33 22 33 44](tel:0333223344).

Not ready to talk? No problem - keep reading this ultimate guide to Hoists.

FUNCTIONAL INDEPENDENCE MEASUREMENT (FIM)

Functional Independence Measurement (FIM) is a commonly used evaluation tool to classify a client's function from 'Independence' to 'Total assistance required'.

This is a helpful tool and will allow the assessor to recognise the client's capacity to assist in the moving and handling procedure.

Key Pointers

Independent

Dependent

Complete dependence

Complete independence: another person is not required for the activity which is performed safely, without modification or outside assistance and within a reasonable time.

Modified independence: movement requires one or more of the following: an assistive equipment, more than a moderate time or safety (risk) considerations.

Supervision or set up: persons required to help by observation or support without contact.

Minimal assistance: someone required to help – by touching or making motivating without contact.

Moderate assistance: someone required to help by more than touching – the client makes 50-75% of the effort.

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Maximum assistance: complete dependence. The client makes less than 50% but at least 35% of effort.

Complete dependence: the client makes less than 24% of effort.



HOIST SELECTION

Hoist selection is ancillary upon the person's anthropometrics, body shape, size and weight and the circumstances in which the equipment is being used. The proper selection of equipment can diminish the number of carers required for the task and importantly reduce physical loading on the carer/s.

Commonly, it is good practice for 1-2 people to operate a mobile hoist and 1 or more people a ceiling track hoist. This is dependant upon the patient's shape, size and FIM.

- A mobile hoist requires a minimum turning space of 1.20 m²
- If the space is less than this a ceiling track hoist is recommended.
- For plus-sized clients (e.g. exceeds the weight and the width of standard equipment) a ceiling track hoist is prescribed.
- If one carer is required to use a passive hoist a ceiling track installation is recommended.

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CEILING TRACK HOIST INSTALLATION

'Medacos installer was very helpful and the hoist looks great.'

RENEE DOWNING, BIRCH WOOD SCHOOL (SEN).

PASSIVE HOISTING SYSTEMS

Overhead tracking hoists:

- Single track system – straight or curved
- Room to room system
- Manual or powered traverse
- X-Y tracking system
- Freestanding gantry system

Mobile hoists:

- Electrically or manually operated legs
- Manual or powered base
- Fixed or detachable battery.

Mobile hoist versus overhead tracking hoist

In recent years, many care facilities and local authorities providing domiciliary care are reviewing care packages. e.g. a number of carers required to undertake the care of an individual.

Whilst mobile hoists are a flexible and cost-effective option, it is recommended that two carers are present during transfer.

A ceiling hoist, however, can be operated by one carer, providing a full risk assessment is carried out.



[VIEW OUR HOISTS](#)



Mobile hoists

It is essential to ensure that mobile hoists are used only to aid the safe and effective transfer of a client. It is not advisable to transport patients over a longer distance.

The advised minimum required turning space by a bed for a mobile hoist is 3.6m



SELECTING A MOBILE HOIST

Boom

The design of the boom will limit the lift height range and also the clearance for the client from the main body of the hoist whilst transporting. Look for booms that can achieve a floor lift, and clearance transferring from a high surface e.g. a bed with dynamic mattress. Also configurations that allows the client to be turned 360° whilst transferring without coming into contact with the actuator, facilitate more comfortable transfers.

Castors

A castor size of 100mm allows excellent manoeuvrability, even on carpets.

Electric versus manual legs

Manual leg operation is of course straightforward, cost-effective, and is adequate for most circumstances.

An electrical leg can be considered for:

- Name of hoist
- Name of sling
- Size of the sling and the loop configuration.

OVERHEAD TRACK HOISTS

Overhead track hoists are generally provided:

**When space is too limited for a mobile hoist
Carers find manoeuvring mobile hoists
difficult.**

**(Pushing forces upon lumbar spine exceed 20
Newton's (men) and 15 Newton's (female)).**

**A reduction in the number of carers is
required**

Plus-sized clients*

**Independent wheelchair users who can
self-transfer****

Overhead track hoists are physically easier to use as the carer is not required to move the mobile hoist as well as the weight of the client. The track and trolley interface allows the carer to glide the hoisted client along with the track with minimal effort. In some instances, clients can assist in the transfer process. Traverse types include manual (this is sufficient in most situations) and power. This is more costly and is usually required for heavier clients or in instances where an independent transfer is possible.

Hoist tracks can be installed in order to allow a client to be moved from one point to another in any area of a house or institution with dedicated accessories relative to specific environmental needs.

Single track systems take a patient to and from fixed points along a single straight, angled or curved track (this can also be mounted on a gantry A-frame system for temporary use).

X-Y systems are where one track is positioned between two other parallel tracks thus allowing for infinite pick up / lowering points within the range of both tracks

'Installed system' versus 'Gantry'

Ceiling track hoists are a permanent fixture which always require a structural survey* to be completed to ensure that the tracking can be safely and securely fitted.

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Ceiling track hoists are a permanent fixture which always require a structural survey* to be completed to ensure that the tracking can be safely and securely fitted.

In instances where a track cannot be installed, as a temporary solution or where there is not the required turning circle for a mobile hoist, a Gantry System can be used. Usually located over a bed, a gantry allows a client to be lifted from bed to chair or wheelchair, with minimal effort.



(ROI) INFORMED EQUIPMENT CHOICES

All assessment and equipment selection needs to incorporate balanced decisions.

Elements include client need, the needs of the organisation providing the equipment as well as the needs and the capability of the person that will operate the equipment.

It may be necessary to make compromises but these compromises should never threaten the health and safety of the client or the carer.

(ROI) PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

Preventative Maintenance is critical in ensuring the return of investment (ROI) by helping you avoid downtime, helping your cares use their time productively and evade injury - whilst ensuring a pleasant and safe experience for your client's.

In order to obtain the benefit of fully functional equipment, routine upkeep of equipment, and Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM) - helping ultimately reduce equipment failure, and in limiting potential problems and accidents.

YOUR SOLUTION, MEDACO.

With over 30 years' experience, Medaco has built an outstanding reputation in the healthcare sector as a single solution for the servicing, maintenance and replacement of patient handling equipment.

Our expertise lies in supporting all your equipment and servicing needs. We do this by offering core services that can then be tailored to the specific requirements of your setting and organisation.

What we offer:

Planned Preventative Maintenance, LOLER Inspections, Asset Management, Reactive Maintenance and Repairs, Replacement, Installation, Commissioning, Training and Product Sourcing.

Got a question? Meet Bruce.

Bruce is on hand to have a chat about your current needs and how you can find the right comprehensive solution to your needs.

0117 937 5944
bruce@medaco.co.uk

Contact us

033 33 22 33 44
Sales@medaco.co.uk
Medaco.co.uk

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