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BACKGROUND

There are challenges with appropriate utilization of safe patient handling (SPH) equipment including:

- A patchwork approach by organizations for SPH assessment to meet regulatory standards
- SPH tools not vetted to promote mobility adding to the existing problem of hospital patient immobility
- Use of SPH equipment often limited to bariatric or dependent patients
- Total assist lifts often utilized when the patient has functional capacity resulting in passive versus active participation
- Nursing staff given limited guidance on choice of appropriate SPH equipment resulting in poor compliance and increased documentation burden

The goal of this project was to merge appropriate SPH equipment recommendations with the Johns Hopkins – Mobility Goal Calculator (JH-MGC) to guide the clinician use of SPH equipment that would facilitate daily mobility goal achievement

METHODS

Modified Delphi Consensus Process

- Multidisciplinary team of experts from various institutions
 - 2 frontline nurses (with mobility & SPH expertise)
 - 2 nurse leaders
 - 2 physical therapists
 - 1 occupational therapist
 - 2 SPH committee representatives/program leaders
 - 1 fall prevention committee leader
- Experts completed an anonymous online survey to recommend SPH equipment that could be used to achieve the daily mobility goal on each level of the JH-MGC
- Live virtual consensus meeting to discuss survey recommendations and come to unanimous agreement

The authors then worked with graphic designers to add consensus recommendations to the JH-MGC to create the JH-SPHM guide (Figure 1.)

Figure 1. JH-SPHM Guide

Activity and Mobility Promotion (AMP) Safe Patient Handling Equipment Recommendations for Daily Mobility Goal Achievement			
JOHNS HOPKINS HIGHEST LEVEL OF MOBILITY SCORE (JH-HLM)		SAFE PATIENT HANDLING EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS* <i>Always use clinical judgment based on individual patient's clinical presentation and needs</i>	
24	8 WALK 250 FEET OR MORE		CANES CRUTCHES WALKERS
22-23	7 WALK 25 FEET OR MORE		SIT TO STAND LIFT DEVICE WITH AMBULATION OPTION
18-21	6 WALK 10 STEPS OR MORE		STAND PIVOT DEVICES
16-17	5 STAND (1 OR MORE MINUTES)		SITTING SUPPORT DEVICE
10-15	4 MOVE TO CHAIR/COMMODE		MECHANICAL TOTAL ASSIST LIFTS LATERAL TRANSFER DEVICES REPOSITIONING DEVICES
8-9	3 SIT AT EDGE OF BED		
6-7	2 BED ACTIVITIES/DEPENDENT TRANSFER		
	1 LAY IN BED		

*Gait belt utilization per institutional practice and policy

bit.ly/everybodymoves



The Johns Hopkins Daily Mobility Goal Calculator, created by Johns Hopkins Activity and Mobility Promotion (bit.ly/HopkinsAMP), is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 4.0 International License. To view a summary of license, please access <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>



CONCLUSIONS

SPH equipment should be used to encourage and promote safe mobility for both patients and staff

- JH-SPHM Guide provides:
 - SPH equipment recommendations to help achieve a daily mobility goal
 - Reduced clinician documentation burden
 - Increased compliance with mobility assessment, goal setting, and planning