



York and Scarborough
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Bedrails in the community

Guide for patients, relatives and carers

① For more information, please contact:
Single Point of Access for Community Nursing
Tel: 01904 721200 (24 hours)

Assessment

Following an assessment a clinical decision will be made on the provision of bedrails. A bedrail is a rail attached to a bed to reduce the risk of a patient slipping, sliding, falling and rolling out of bed. They may provide a feeling of comfort and support and could also aide repositioning in bed if deemed appropriate. Please read the following guidance and contact us if you have any questions or concerns, we will be happy to help.

Extra height bedrails can be provided if there is a risk of the patient rolling over the top of the rail due to mattress height. As protective covers ('bumpers') have been advised please ensure these are kept on at all times; this will aim to minimise the risk of injury.

Please note:

If there is any change in the patient's condition this may pose a risk of injury from the bedrails. Please contact the community team that provided the equipment and a reassessment will be carried out; this is to ensure the safety is the main priority.

What the bedrails should not be used for

- Keeping agitated or confused patients in bed. This may make the situation more hazardous as the patient may try and climb around or over the obstruction, this could result in harm or serious injury.
- They must not be used as a restraint or a barrier to independence.
- Special consideration must be given to patients with greater risk; this includes certain conditions such as Epilepsy, Parkinson's, cerebral palsy, and other conditions that cause involuntary or repetitive movements, dementia, confusion or communication problems. Ensure all parts of the patient's body are clear of the bedrails before moving the bed rail to avoid entrapment.

Faults

The bedrails provided have been checked to ensure they are compatible with the bedframe according to manufacturer's guidance. If there are any problems with the daily use of bedrails then please consult the equipment provider (contact numbers included in this leaflet) who will aim to remedy this as soon as possible.

Contact Information

Medequip equipment store

(for faults and maintenance)

Tel: 01423 226240 (8am to 6pm)

Out of hours and weekends

Tel: 020 85732871

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS offers impartial advice and assistance to patients, their relatives, friends and carers. We can listen to feedback (positive or negative), answer questions and help resolve any concerns about Trust services.

PALS can be contacted on 01904 726262, or email pals@york.nhs.uk.

An answer phone is available out of hours

Tell us what you think of this leaflet

We hope that you found this leaflet helpful. If you would like to tell us what you think, please contact: Patient Safety team on 01904 361313 or email patient.safety@york.nhs.uk

Teaching, training and research

Our Trust is committed to teaching, training and research to support the development of health and healthcare in our community. Healthcare students may observe consultations for this purpose. You can opt out if you do not want students to observe. We may also ask you if you would like to be involved in our research.

Leaflets in alternative languages or formats

Please telephone or email if you require this information in a different language or format, for example Braille, large print or audio.

如果你要求本資 不同的 或 式提供 , 電或發電

Jeżeli niniejsze informacje potrzebne są w innym języku lub formacie, należy zadzwonić lub wysłać wiadomość e-mail

Bu bilgileri değişik bir lisanda ya da formatta istiyorsanız lütfen telefon ediniz ya da e-posta gönderiniz

Telephone: 01904 725566

Email: access@york.nhs.uk

Owner	Community Nursing
Date first issued	May 2017
Review Date	October 2024
Version	3 (issued January 2022)
Approved by	Community Nursing Governance Group
Document Reference	PIL 1126 v3

© 2022 York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.
All Rights reserved.