



Vanderbilt Acute Care Rehabilitation Services Physical/Occupational Therapy Knowledge and Use of Smooth Moves Patient Handling Equipment

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Purpose

To determine the knowledge base of acute PT/OT staff and consistency in the use of Smooth Moves equipment

Methodology

January 2006 : Questionnaires to acute PT/OT staff

Results:

The greatest hindrance to use of Smooth Moves equipment appears to be lack of knowledge of its availability and lack of training in its use.

March 2006: Training in equipment use

Staff re-surveyed in February 2007 after training, asking:

- If they knew how to use the various pieces of equipment
- How often they used
- Why they do not use it

Results

Significantly more staff feel competent using the equipment. However, less than a third of the respondents use it more than three times a month.

Assessment

Reasons staff do not use equipment:

- Lack of availability
- Prefer to work on functional mobility without equipment
- Do not want to take the time to use it
- Cannot find it

Plan

In-service acute PT/OT staff regarding:

- Injury rate reduction at VUH by using equipment
- Locating equipment in their work areas
- Using equipment as an adjunct to functional mobility training

