# SLING INSTRUCTION SHEET BAND SLING

The Band Sling is designed to assist health care staff with the support and positioning of limbs. Providing proper limb support can assist staff with wound dressing, wound preparation, leg/venous wrapping, foot care, cleaning and a variety of other care related tasks.

The National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses

(NAON)<sup>1</sup> recommends that limb lifting be limited to a maximum of 11.1 lbs. The average weight of a 200 lb. patient's leg is approx. 35-37 lbs.

It is important the sling be applied as to reduce the risk of skin irritation during the application process. See pictures for demonstration.

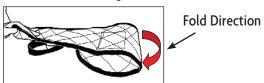


PART #	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT CAPACITY
507720	Quilted Band Sling - M (STANDARD)	450lbs
507740	Quilted Band Sling – XL (BARIATRIC)	450lbs

Thomas R Waters; Carol A Sedlak; Cynthia M Howe; Cynthia M Gonzalez; Margaret O Doheny; Miki Patterson; Audrey Nelson Orthopaedic Nursing; March/April 2009; 28, 2.

#### **APPLYING THE SLING**

1. It is recommended that the sling be folded in  $\frac{1}{3}$  or  $\frac{1}{2}$ , such that the strap is folded under the sling.



2. The sling should be inserted under the leg/limb in areas of limited leg-bed contact, for example, the back of the knee. Make sure strap is not touching the skin,







**3.** Once the sling is in place the folded portion of the leg strap can be removed gently, avoiding skin contact.





In some cases, due to limb size or technique, it may be advantageous to utilize two Band slings. This may require the Band slings to be moved away from the wound area during the procedure, but does provide maximal support.

The Band sling can also be applied through the standard, log roll application method.

### **Specialty Applications**

Due to the limited amount of material utilized in the construction of the Band sling it may be an excellent choice when turning patients, elevating particular areas of the body for easier access.

- Placed under the hips, it allows a slight elevation of the hips, into a slight pelvic bridge position.
- Placed under the shoulder, it allows elevation of the shoulder/torso for access to the head, scalp, hair etc.

The "Band Sling" system, used for lifting/ transferring is not suitable for all individuals. This method of use, requires that the client have a great degree of upper body strength, trunk control, endurance, cooperation and cognition. It is important that each client be assessed by a registered health professional prior to the use of this system for lifting and transferring.

## **Handicare**

81 Romina Drive, Concord ON L4K 4Z9 Canada | 1.877.304.5438 | www.handicare.ca 10888 Metro Court, St. Louis, MO 63043 USA | Toll Free: 1.866.891.6502 | www.handicareusa.com

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Recommended Weight Limits for Lifting and Holding Limbs in the Orthopaedic Practice Setting.

## SLING INSTRUCTION SHEET BAND SLING

#### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

This sling may not be practical for use by all individuals. It is designed to allow an individual to be lifted and repositioned in a supine manner without producing flexion at the hip area. It may also be utilized to roll or turn for a frequent change of position while in bed.

Please consult with a health care professional trained in safe patient handling for more details or uses of this or other sling models.

#### WASHING INSTRUCTIONS

The sling should be inserted into a washing/laundry bag prior to being placed into the washer. This is to prevent any unusual wear and tear of the sling by the agitator and/or other parts of the washing machine.



**Note:** The Reusable Band Sling is made from polyester mesh and knit materials. Life expectancy is up to 4 years depending on use, care and laundering process. Always follow general guidelines before use. Discard the sling if any tears or serious defects are found.

#### **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

Only people who have received proper training should attempt to use Handicare Lift Systems. Improper use can lead to serious injury.

#### Please read and adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1. Read all lift instructions before using.
- 2. Do not exceed safe weight capacity.
- 3. Visually inspect the sling prior to using it (check for fraying, cuts, or tears to straps and/or material).
- 4. A balanced fit is a safe fit: position the sling under and around the individual.
- 5. Do not use the lift systems for anything but their stated purpose.

All Handicare's loop-style slings are compatible with our complete range of carry bars. To ensure anyone using Handicare's Lift Systems is properly trained, an on-going training program should be established. Contact your Handicare representative should you have further questions.

### **Handicare**