

PPS Gait Belt - Instructions for Use

For caregiver-assisted patient ambulation and transfer. This instruction sheet follows the risk communication principles of ANSI Z535

INTENDED USE

Provides caregivers with a secure handhold to assist a patient during supervised ambulation and transfer.

SAFETY INFORMATION

⚠ WARNING

Hazard: Using this gait belt as a restraint in a wheelchair, chair, bed, or vehicle.

Consequence: Could cause serious injury or death due to falls, entrapment, or loss of support.

How to avoid: Do **NOT** use this product as a restraint, seat belt, or positioning device. Use only for assisted ambulation and transfer.

⚠ WARNING

Hazard: Attempting to transfer or ambulate a patient without adequate caregiver support.

Consequence: Could cause patient falls or caregiver musculoskeletal injury, including back, shoulder, or arm strain.

How to avoid: Confirm the caregiver can safely support the patient before use. Use **TWO CAREGIVERS** when the patient's weight, size, balance, or condition requires additional assistance.

⚠ WARNING

Hazard: Using the gait belt to lift a patient or support full body weight.

Consequence: Loss of control may result in injury to the patient or caregiver.

How to avoid: Do **NOT** use the belt for lifting. Use only to assist balance and guided movement during ambulation or transfer.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place the belt around the patient's **waist only**. Do not place around the chest or under the arms.
2. Thread the metal-tipped end through the buckle hinge, over the teeth, and through the rear slot.
3. Tighten until the belt is snug and secure, but comfortable for the patient.
4. Verify fit before use. Maintain a secure grasp from underneath at the patient's back and side.
5. Follow facility safe-patient-handling procedures and use proper body mechanics throughout the transfer.

FIT, PLACEMENT, AND INSPECTION

⚠ CAUTION

Hazard: Improper belt placement or loose fit.

Consequence: Reduced control may increase the risk of slipping or patient instability.

How to avoid: Apply around the **WAIST ONLY**. Ensure the belt is snug and secure before each use.

Inspect the belt before each use. Do not use if webbing is frayed, torn, cut, or excessively worn, or if the buckle is cracked, bent, damaged, or does not hold securely.

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

NOTICE

Issue: Improper cleaning or handling may damage the belt or buckle and reduce product life.

How to avoid: Follow the cleaning instructions below. Do not use cleaning methods that could damage webbing or buckle components.

Vinyl belts: Wipe clean with an approved disinfectant. Follow your facility's cleaning policies. Avoid alcohol-based cleaners unless approved.

Cotton belts: Machine wash and dry at temperatures up to 180 F (82 C). Do not bleach. Do not place the belt in a water extractor.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Use the product only as intended for assisted ambulation and transfer.
- Store in a clean, dry environment away from excess moisture and heat.
- Train caregivers on belt application, patient support techniques, and facility procedures before use.

MANUFACTURER

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