Oral Health Care for Patients with Physical and Mental Disabilities – Wheelchair Transfer

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Wheelchair Transfer

From material developed by:
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Basic:

- Proper patient preparation
- Support straps, belts, vests needed
- Proper positioning of patient, lock wheelchair
- Proper positioning of the “mover”
- Feet placed for balance and support of patient and “mover”
- Back NOT used - pivot from hips
- Use body, not back
- Do NOT slide patient into chair - LIFT
Sliding Board

- Use for paraplegic
- Use when patient can do transfer alone
- Be prepared to assist, support
- Board is made of hardwood, smooth, tapered on ends
• Patient removes impediments: sheets, blankets, coats, urinary catheters
• Dental Chair is same level as wheelchair
• Remove wheelchair armrest
• Position board under buttocks carefully and on dental chair
• Be sure urinary catheters and IV lines are out of the way and will NOT be caught in the transfer
• Assist as needed while patient slides carefully into dental chair
One person Transfer

- Strap around patient, wheelchair locked
- Can use armpits
- Patient hands clasped in front
- Mover’s feet positioned outside adjacent to patient feet
• Mover’s knees outside patient knees
• Grasp patient on strap or under armpits
Lean back lifting patient with body, not back!
• Pivot patient over top of dental chair
• Carefully set patient on dental chair
• May need padding under patient to prevent decubitus ulcer formation
• Lift legs and position patient
• Move patient up in chair by LIFTING - not sliding
Two Person Transfer

- Same principals
- Preparation of patient important
• One person upper body
• One person lower body
• LIFT - do not slide
• Patient comfortably positioned
• Patient properly positioned for dental treatment
• Wheelchair headrests are commercially available or can be fabricated in local machine shop
• Wheelchair headrest in use
• Padding may need to be moved from the wheelchair to the dental chair to prevent decubitus ulcer formation (bed sores)
In nursing home environments a suitable “chair” may already be available. This one is a lifting chair used to place a patient in a bath tub.
Operatory Design for wheelchair access

(Mun-H-Center, Goteborg, Sweden)
Wheelchair access - lift

(Mun-H-Center, Goteborg, Sweden demonstrated by Drs. Jan Andersson-Norinder [right], Antonio Cutando Soriano [left])
Wheelchair access - lift

(Mun-H-Center, Goteborg, Sweden - placing patient over the dental chair)
Operatory Chair with Support Cushions

(Mun-H-Center, Goteborg, Sweden)
Wheelchair lift from Spain

www.socinser.com
Wheelchair lift from the U.K.

www.designspecific.co.uk