General User Safety Guide

Patient Slings

Please ensure that this booklet is read prior to first use of any moving and handling practice. Choosing the right sling is of vital importance. This ensures that patient comfort and safety are adhered to at all times. Prism Healthcare Ltd recommend that prior to using any sling, a full risk assessment must be completed by a qualified professional, in order to determine that the correct sling, positioning and transfer procedure is suitable for each individual. Please refer to the information in this booklet as a guideline only.

www.easycaresystems.co.uk

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Introduction

Intended use

The slings are manufactured to form a function to enable the population with movement disabilities to carry on with their daily activities as best possible. The slings are not singularly used; the slings are used in conjunction with a hoist by means of an attachment. Used together along with the hoist system, the combined output provides the user with the intended use

Contraindications and Cautions

There are no contraindications to consider for the slings – used as intended they will perform as expected with no untoward outputs against risk. There are no medical cautions to observe although cautions against the functionality (installation and usage) of the slings while in pre and post use are in place and are shown within each user guide to ensure the operator of the device has the knowledge to use the sling appropriately.

Symbols in Use Index for the slings


Caution – Please consult the instructions for use


Manufacturers details


Manufacture date


Please read the user instructions

Water temperature not to exceed


Do not tumble dry


Do not bleach


Do not iron

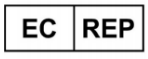

Dry normal, no heat


The sling is a type B applied part

Safe weight load indicators


Type BF applied part

Medical Device



European Authorised Representative

Sling Compatibility and Safety Statement

Prism Healthcare Ltd are proud manufacturers of high quality moving and handling products, manufactured to standards of BS EN ISO 10535, whilst maintaining quality management systems to those of BS EN ISO 9001:2015 & BS EN ISO 13485:2016 with the addition of the EMS BS EN ISO 14001:2015. We ensure that all products are appropriately CE marked and our designs are tested fully on our specialist rigs prior to dispatch.

Image: Test Rig (Prism Healthcare)

Appropriate legislation & documentation in relation to sling manufacturing

Prism Healthcare Ltd manufactures it's products utilising the requirements as set out within the BS EN ISO 10535 (Hoists for the transfer of disabled persons - Requirements and test methods). Extensive testing is conducted on batch samples and appropriate certification is available to support the requirements of the standard.

As with any other medical device manufacturer, Prism Healthcare are obliged to provide any information as required to the appropriate bodies if challenged, for example MHRA. The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) under the Regulation on Medical Devices 2017/745 ensure that harmonised standards are met in order to meet the requirements set out and CE mark the device before releasing it on the marketplace.

As a result of document reference "Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations" (LOLER 5 Dec 1998), Prism Healthcare has a responsibility to ensure that each product manufactured is to be of a safe standard and of course be fit for purpose ***(*)***

They are to be marked with any relevant information required for a safe transfer including patient / product weight capacity, product design, inspection instructions and unique serial numbers for identification. Under LOLER regulations, regular 6-monthly checks (and interim, pre use inspections) should be undertaken. Service Labels are offered accordingly.

(*) *Providing that a thorough written risk assessment is conducted by a competent assessor" (Reference: LOLER 1998/PUWER 1998). Sling compatibility and safety statement.*

For additional guidance in relation to risk assessments and appropriate competencies, please refer to the document:

"Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations" (PUWER 5 Dec 1998)
which can be found at
http://www.hse.gov.uk/work-equipment-machinery/puwer.html
http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/ocs/300-399/313_5.html

Sling Sizes and coding often varies greatly between manufacturers. However, there is no evidence to suggest that slings and hoists can't be "appropriately matched" with other manufacturer's designs. That is providing that the clip or loop applications are applied relevant to the male fitting and of course a thorough risk assessment is conducted by the clinician / carer beforehand. Prism Healthcare has patented Dosec® clips, Sloop® & Cloop® (clip & loop) fittings that are suitable for application to various hoists. Interchangeable slings

can provide the right solution for a patient's clinical requirements. Prism Healthcare provide this solution at a much reduced cost and without compromise towards clinical ability.

Ensure you are aware of the hoist manufacturer's fitting instructions. Please identify if the hoist requires a loop or clip fitting. If a clip fit sling is required, please refer to the enclosed clip instructions for use. (Do NOT use a clip fit sling on a loop designed spreader bar. Do NOT use a loop designed sling on a stud/clip designed spreader bar.) For all other sling information/clip & hoist size compatibility, please refer to pages 10 to 11 of this document.

Therefore, when ordering Dosec® clip or Cloop® fitting slings, please refer to page 11 to 13 of this booklet or liaise with our Customer Service Team. This ensures accurate application to the relevant clip fitting system / hoist at time of order, thus minimising incorrect order and application.

All slings are constructed from a polyester based material and are BS EN ISO 1021:1 & 2 compliant.

Device Compatibility

Therefore, we can confirm that Prism Healthcare slings are compatible with multiple hoisting products manufactured by the following (but not limited to):

- Prism Healthcare
- Arjo / Huntleigh
- Liko
- Joern's
- Oxford
- Guldmann
- Ope Med
- Drive DeVilbiss Healthcare (Days/Parkhouse/Sidhil)
- Horcher
- Invacare (Birdie, Birdie Compact & Reliant 350 models)
- Reval
- Handicare

Please read the relevant instruction manual from the corresponding device that the sling will be applied to, to ensure you have the full understanding of the functionality and the associated risk for both intended and unintended use of the applied system

both the sling and lifting equipment is fit for purpose, ensuring that any alternative suppliers' products can be used without adverse incidence.

There is always a risk of an inappropriately sized sling being used if one assumes that one size fits all or that the assessment is rushed or not taken appropriately. If you experience or suspect varying sling designs, always consult with either our Customer Service Team and/or your local Moving & Handling Advisor to guide you further.

Choosing the Correct Sling

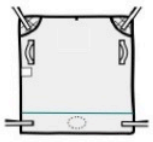
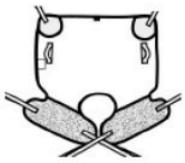
Choosing the correct sling for your patient is of vital importance. This ensures that patient comfort and safety are adhered to at all times. Prism Healthcare Ltd recommend that before using a sling, a full risk assessment is completed by a qualified professional in order to determine that the correct sling and size is suitable for each individual.

Other factors such as patient disabilities, weight distribution and individual characteristics will also determine the appropriate size and sling design relevant for your patient. However, the clinician using the sling must apply an appropriate assessment prior to use.

Published in 2012, the document entitled 'Getting to grips with hoisting people' produced by the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) highlights the problems associated with hoisting people and sets out guidance to deal with these.

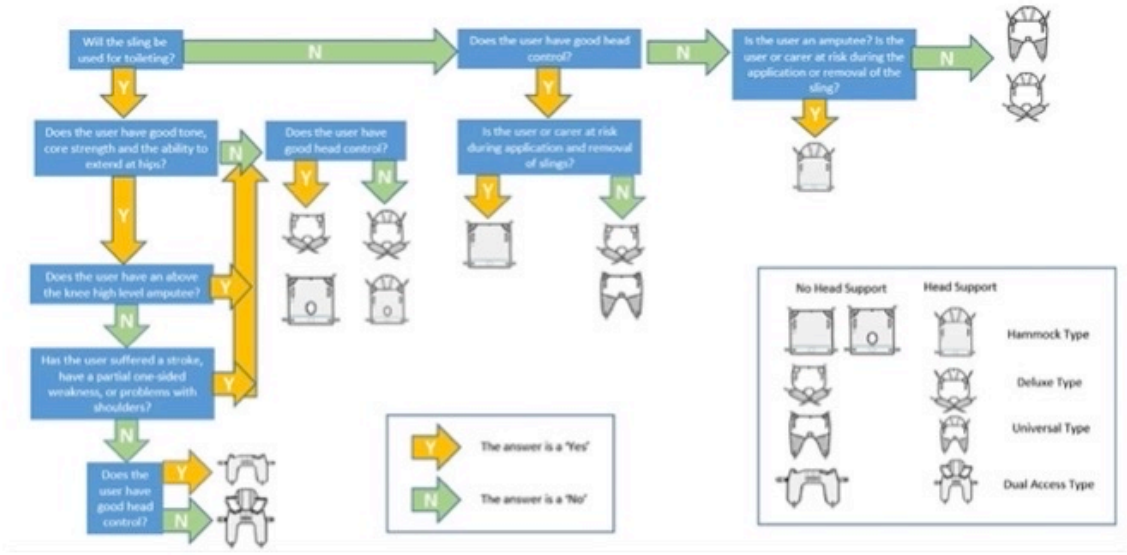
Generic Sling Types

The sling range can be grouped in 4 generic groups as shown below:

Generic Sling Type	***Hammock Type***	***Deluxe Hammock Type***	***Universal Type***	***Dual Access Type***
Generic Drawing				
Usability Overview	Maximum support during the lift providing full support to the neck, back and shoulders	Designed to be easier to remove once the patient is in a chair and the split legs helps with patient dignity whilst being manoeuvred	Provides support to legs and shoulders with an aperture allowing removal to be easier once the patient is in a seating position	Designed to help facilitate with the toileting process. Good access for clothing removal but minimal support

Sling Selection Guide

When selecting which sling generic group to review the flow chart below can be used:



The basic questions, once answered, will help identify the group of slings to review for each particular patient need.

<u>Extracts from this document include:</u>

What can go wrong?

People can fall during hoisting for a number of reasons. Problems include:

- Selection of the wrong size sling - resulting in discomfort if the sling is too
- small and a risk of the person slipping through the sling if it is too large (**)
- Selection of the wrong type of hoist or sling for the individual, or for the specific task - resulting in inadequate support and increased risk of falling from the sling.
- Incompatibility of the hoist and sling - resulting in insecure attachment between the two.
- Failure of equipment due to poor maintenance, lack of inspection, inappropriate laundering processes or as a result of inadequate repair or modification.
- Leaving a vulnerable person unattended in a hoist, or in a position where they may be at risk of falling from the bed or chair
- Not using the safety harness/attachment (if applicable).
- Instability when moving someone on a mobile hoist - resulting in them striking objects. This is likely to cause injury, especially to those with vulnerable skin, and will increase the risk of a fall or overturn.

(**) Note:

Sling sizes and coding varies between manufacturers. There is a risk of using an inappropriately sized sling if you make assumptions without checking the suitability of a specific sling for the individual.

For example, two large slings from different manufacturers may be different sizes – the body of the sling may be a different length or the number of loop attachments may differ, resulting in a different lifting position. Additionally, sling designs can alter over time, so a new sling from a manufacturer may differ in size or attachment strap length from on previously purchased. Some slings come with a range of different length loops for attachment to the

hoist. These can be used to increase the comfort of the individual or put them in a more reclined or upright position.

However, you should take great care to choose the correct loops for the individual so that they are not at risk of slipping from the sling, and to use the same loop configuration on both sides to reduce the risk of the person falling from the sling sideways.

Safety Checks

Equipment safety checks for slings prior to each use, need to ensure that:

- The sling is the correct size and type for the client and is fit for purpose;
- The sling and hoist are compatible;
- All labels are legible and show the SWL and unique identifier and size;
- There are no signs of fraying, tears or deterioration;
- All stitching is present and intact;
- The Velcro (if applicable) is clean and free of fibres/fluff etc.;
- The buckle (is applicable) has no signs of damage etc.;
- The loops/clips have no obvious signs of damage/fraying etc.; and It has
- been cleaned.

For a copy of this HSE document please go to:

www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hsis3.pdf

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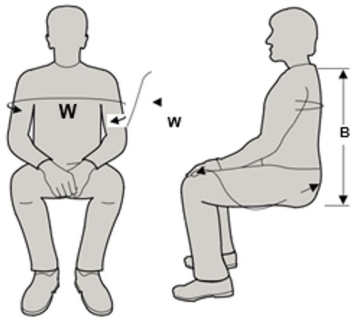
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/2/

The HSE have also produced a very useful flowchart (Figure 1) which provides a check list for carers when using a mobile hoist and sling. A copy of this chart is provided, with their permission, on pages 16 to 17 of this document.

Sling Size Assessment Guide

To measure for a sling, there is a requirement to measure the client and gain the dimensions highlighted



The colour coded sizing system below applies to Prism Healthcare Group of slings **only**:

Brand	Size	Col
Mackworth	XX Small	
	X Small	
	Small	
	Medium	
	Large	
	X Large	
	XX Large	
Care-Ability	P1	
	P2	
	P3	
	P4	
	P5	
	X Small	
	Small	
	Small/Medium	
	Medium	
	Medium/Large	
	Large	
	X Large	
Prism	Child	
	Junior	
	Small	
	Medium	
	Large	
	X Large	

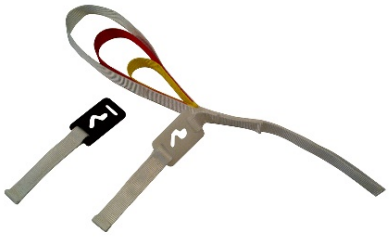
Carry Bar Loops

The sling has colour coordinated loops which attach to the carry bar hooks. These loops allow flexibility for the patient when in the sling. Ensure the loops used are all the same colour, do not perform a lift if the loops are not all the same colour.

Pre-Use Check

1. Before performing a patient lift all loops to be securely held within the carry bar hooks.
2. Check the sling for any damage on the fabric or fastenings before use – do not use if there is damage.
3. Ensure all loops/clips and velcro fastenings are in good working order before use.

Sling Loops – Check the condition and integrity (if relevant)

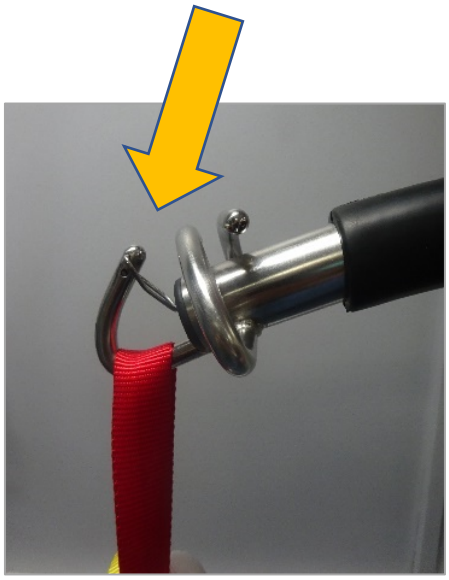


Sling Clips – Check the condition and integrity (if relevant)

Clips – Check the condition and integrity

Fabric and Seams – Check the condition and integrity

Ensure the sling loops are secured within the carry bar hoops.



Always ensure the both hoops have the loops secured to ensure an even and level lift.

Some carry bars will be fitted with a retainer clip – if this is the case ensure the loop is within the 'well' of the hoop and the retainer clip is back in its 'sprung' location.

Carry Bar with a Retainer Clip

How to secure the hoop onto a carry bar with a retainer clip.

1. Retract the retainer clip
2. Position the sling loop in the hoop 'well'
3. Release the retainer clip and ensure the sling loop remains in the hoop 'well'

Ensure you retract the retainer clip

Position the loop

Place the loop within the hoop

Release the retainer clip

Carry Bar with a Hoop

How to secure the hoop onto a carry bar with a retainer clip.

1. Position the sling hoop over the required hoop. Ensure the hoops selected on either side will allow an even lift once the patient is the sling.
2. Sling the sling hoop is fully within the 'well' loop

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2. Sling the sling hoop is fully within the ‘well’ loop

Carry Bar with a Clip Type Fixing

How to secure the clips onto a carry bar.

1. Slide the clip onto the nodule (the widest part of the hole on the clip)
2. Let go of the clip and allow the nodule to slide along the channel
3. Once the nodule is at the end of the channel it is safe to use
4. To remove the clip do the above in reverse

Pre-Checks before Performing the Lift

1. Ensure the sling loops/clips being used are all the same colour
2. Loops: Ensure the sling loops stay within the hoop ‘wells’ at all times. Clips: Ensure the sling clips stay at the end of the channel (the narrow end) at all times
3. Ensure there is nothing snagging on the carry bar, sling or patient that would interfere with the lift

Lifting Procedure Checks

Pre-Checks before Performing the Lift

1. Ensure the sling loops/clips being used are all the same colour
2. Loops: Ensure the sling loops stay within the hoop 'wells' at all times. Clips: Ensure the sling clips stay at the end of the channel (the narrow end) at all times
3. Ensure there is nothing snagging on the carry bar, sling or patient that would interfere with the lift

During the Lift

1. During a lift always observe the patient, the hoist and sling. If anything becomes 'snagged' cease the lift
2. If the patient becomes uncomfortable or unsettled, stop the lift and decide on the best action
3. If the sling appears damaged during the lift return the patient to a surface as soon as possible

After the Lift

1. Remove the sling from the patient (unless it's an insitu sling as these can remain under the patient)
2. Check for any damage caused on the sling – if any damage report this through internal system

Public sector information

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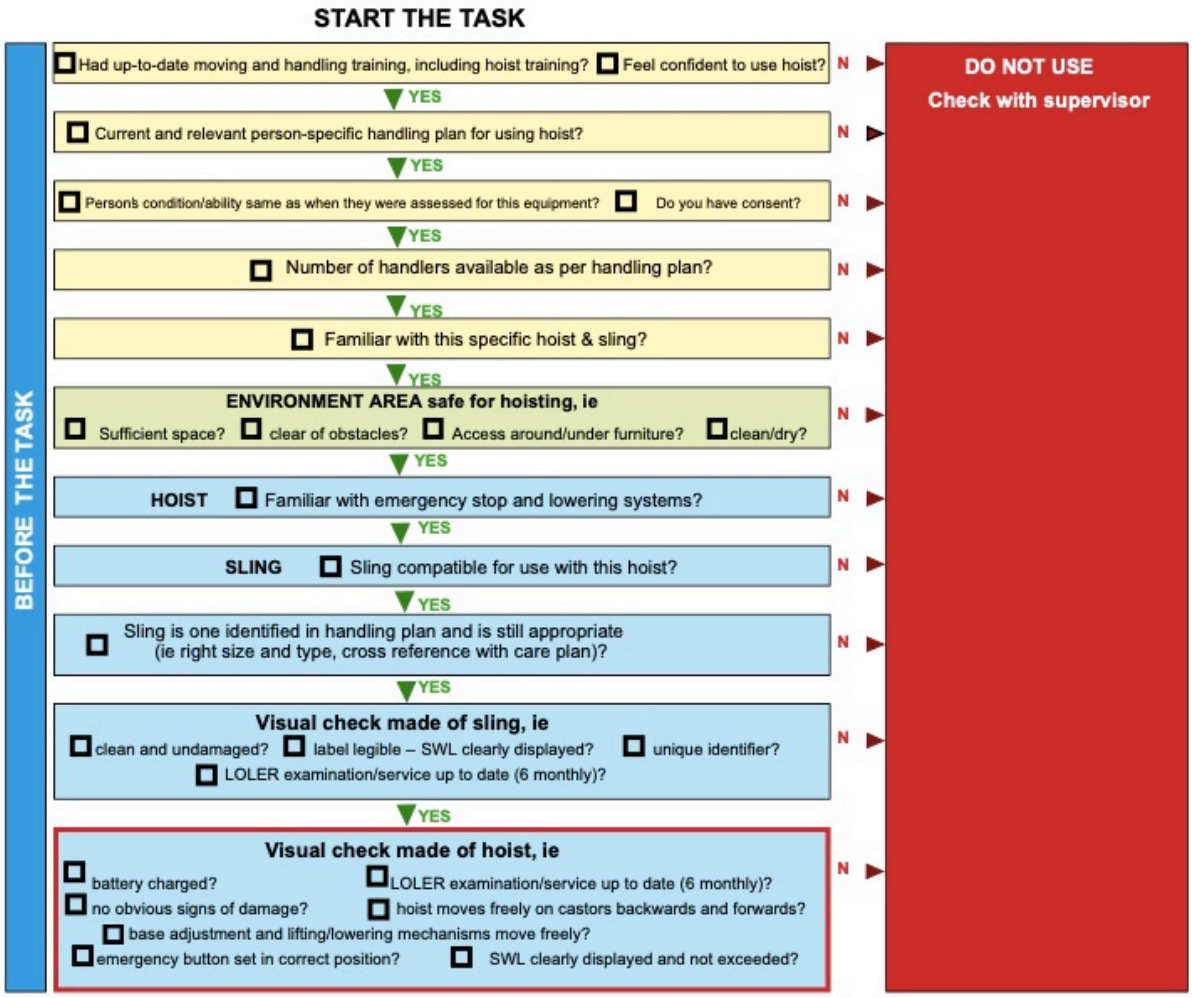

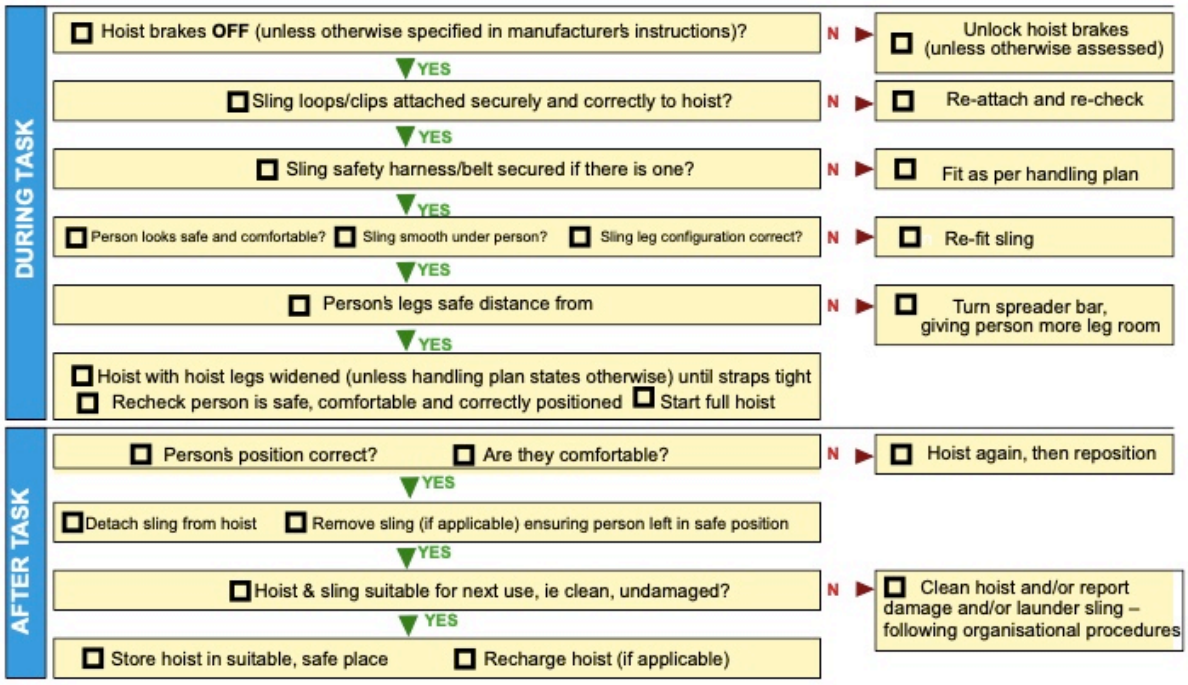

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Product Label

Sewn into every sling is a high temperature compatible, Launderable label for user guidance and traceability purposes.

Product Storage

The Slings are designed to be easy to store when not in use and, once assembled, to be placed in a setting where there is minimal impact on the environment. When not in use, the sling is recommended to be placed in its original packaging. If cleaning is required after storage, please see latest user manual for instructions.

Shipping and storage conditions are stated below from Section 5.3.2 of Sling User Manual:

5.3.2 Shipping and storage conditions

-25°C to +5°C (-13°F to 41°F) with any humidity level
+5°C to +35°C (41°F to 95°F) at a relative humidity up to 90%,
+35°C to 70°C non-condensing at a water vapour pressure up to 50hPa

The time required to allow the sling to reach its correct operating temperature range from its minimum or maximum shipping or storage temperature is a minimum of 1 hour.

Cleaning Instruction

Sewn into every sling is a unique embroidered label, identifying maximum patient weight and serial number for tractability and LOLER compliance. This label will not wash out.
The slings are NOT sterile and are not intended to be sterile throughout their use in the hoist system

Washing guidelines:

- Follow the wash recommendations detailed on the label of your product.
- Always ensure that all Velcro® fastenings are fully closed before washing.
- For optimum fabric longevity, all products should be washed using non-biological washing detergents (inc. Conditioners and fabric softeners), ensuring a full rinse to prevent deterioration to the sling fabric and skin irritation.
- Customers wishing to use biological washing detergent are advised that this may ultimately affect the fabric integrity and longevity of the product. Customers are also advised that using biological washing detergent will invalidate any future warranty claims due to possible deterioration in function of the product by not following the manufacturers guidelines.
- Ensure any head stays are removed prior to washing. **Replace head stays after washing**.
- Never iron any sling product.
- Always wash your product at the temperature stated on the label.

Drying Guidelines:

- Follow the recommended drying instructions on the label of your product.

- Overheating a textile product can cause deterioration in the material components.
- Do not place the product on a convector heater or steam pipes.

Standards Applied & Regulations to Follow

The following standards are applied to the product:

- MDR: Regulation on Medical Devices 2017/745
- BS EN ISO 9001:2015 (Quality management system)
- BS EN ISO 13485:2016 (Medical device quality management system)
- BS EN ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental management system)
- BS EN ISO 10535 – Hoists for the transfer of disabled persons – Requirements and Test Methods
- LOLER - Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations" (LOLER 5 Dec 1998)

Contamination Control – Return of Product

Should there be a requirement to return this product it needs to be in a clean condition and should not be soiled. Return of "contaminated" product will put the health of individuals who are involved with the return process, both delivery and manufacturing staff, in jeopardy.

Should a return be necessary, this should be supported by a completed Biohazard Declaration form. Please contact the manufacturer or distributor for a copy of this form.

Product Lifetime

The product is expected to have a lifetime of 10 years.

Product End of Life Considerations – Disposal

The considerations are all indicated in the individual user manuals that support the devices. Please observe the local laws on recycling and respect the current laws for disposal within the community the device is being used within

The relevant components utilised in the manufacture of the device that can be recycled at the end of the device life are:
Fully recyclables:

- Plastic clips and mouldings
- Initial packaging of the device (Cardboard / Polythene)

Components that are not recyclable:

- Sling textile – this is currently not recyclable

Prism Healthcare subscribes to the principles of BS EN ISO 14001:2015 and is a responsible manufacturer who will strive to improve and reduce the environmental impact of its devices

If, during the use of this device or as a result of its use a serious incident has occurred, please report it to the manufacturer and to your national authority

Manufacturer and Contact Details

Safety guide language

This instruction for use is provided in the English language – should you require a copy for the use of this device in the regional language for where it is being used, please contact your distributor or the manufacturer of the device.

Mackworth Healthcare subscribes to the following standards:

- BS EN ISO 9001:2015 (Quality Management Systems)
- BS EN ISO 13485:2016 (Medical Devices. Quality Management Systems)
- BS EN ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental management systems)

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