

3.3.1.3 Lifting/Moving Patients



YOUR ORGANIZATION
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES

TITLE: Lifting/Moving Patients

SECTION/TOPIC: Emergency Medical & Response Risk Management

NUMBER: 3.3.1.3

ISSUE DATE:

REVISED DATE:

PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

X

Preparer

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Approver

These SOPs/SOGs are based on FEMA guidelines FA-197

1.0 POLICY REFERENCE

CFR

NFPA

NIMS

2.0 PURPOSE

This standard operating procedure/guideline addresses proper lifting dynamics, proper use of stretchers, special situations (stairways, elevators, etc).

3.0 SCOPE

This SOP/SOG pertains to all personnel in this organization.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

These definitions are pertinent to this SOP/SOG.

5.0 PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

5.1 Proper Lifting Dynamics, proper use of Stretchers, Special Situations (stairways, elevators, etc):

Basic Lifting

- Proper lifting techniques must be used when lifting any object.
- Plan storage and staging to minimize lifting or carrying distances.
 - Split heavy loads into smaller loads.
 - Use mechanical lifting aids whenever possible.
 - Have someone assist with the lift – especially for heavy or awkward loads.
 - Make sure the path of travel is clear prior to the lift.

Basic and Advanced Life Support Activities On and Around Emergency Medical Scenes

Protective non-latex gloves, or the equivalent, and protective eyewear are minimum safety precautions for all rescuers on any medical emergency. Individual patient history may dictate that a greater level of protection is required, but this policy will not address those situations. Refer to the Infection Control Guideline for detailed precautions.

Personnel involved in motor vehicle extrication situations shall wear structural PPE (minus SCBA) when operating rescue equipment. Minimum protective gear for everyone on scene should include gloves, helmet, safety boots, and turnout jacket. Personnel involved in patient treatment should wear jacket, helmet, and safety boots whenever possible, patient access permitting.

Proper lifting techniques must always be used whenever lifting heavy objects, such as the rescue tools and power pack. Use of the rescue tool should be considered a two-person operation, and safety when working around any MVA should be of utmost importance.

When lifting a patient into the transport ambulance, use of a 4-person lift is desirable (this does not apply to the use of one-person gurney).