

## PATRAN<sup>®</sup> SLIDE SHEETS BEST PRACTICES FOR USE

PATRAN<sup>®</sup> slide sheets are simple to use for safe patient handling and mobility. The following best practices can enhance safety, improve staff compliance and ensure the best PATRAN product performance.

### Insertion and removal options

Though [logrolling](#) is a well-known insertion method, it can lead to long-term wear of caregivers' bodies and may be contraindicated for certain patients.

While caregivers can logroll to insert PATRAN slide sheets, consider one of three alternate insertion methods that don't require logrolling: [unfolding](#), [tucking](#) or [burrito roll](#). These options may be preferred or required depending on body composition, task or medical condition.



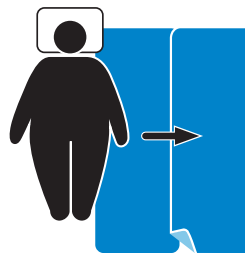
[Removing PATRAN](#) does not require logrolling a patient.

### Consider body composition

There is no weight limit for moving a patient with PATRAN slide sheets because these friction-reducing devices should never be used to lift patients. Rather, use PATRAN to slide patients.

While research shows most patients weighing 300 pounds or less can be moved safely with two caregivers and a PATRAN that is 72 inches or longer style, larger patients will require more staff to assist. Your health care organization may have its own guidelines as to patient weight limit and medical condition when choosing SPHM equipment. Consult your safety leaders for specifics.

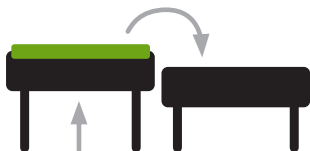
For in-bed repositioning of patients wider than 36 inches, [tuck two PATRAN slide sheets](#) – one from each side lengthwise – so the devices cross under the center of the patient to provide coverage along the width of the body. Or use a PATRANbari, our largest slide sheet. For in-bed repositioning of patients wider than 45 inches, tuck two PATRANbari slide sheets – one from each side lengthwise.



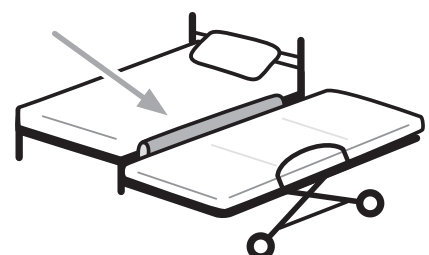
If you use the [slide-board transfer method](#) for patients of size, tuck one PATRAN lengthwise along the side and lay the second PATRAN beside the first one so there is more PATRAN along the transfer path.

### Set the surface heights

For lateral transfer, set the destination surface four inches lower than the surface the patient is on. Gravity will help with the transfer and further reduce the force required by caregivers. The distance also accounts for compression of the originating surface mattress and prevents the patient from sliding into the edge of the destination surface, especially hard surfaces like imaging or procedure tables.



If any surface edge is curved or bumpy, like on some imaging beds, use a slide board to help bridge that area. Some stretchers have rails that may interfere with transfer. Pad the rails with a blanket or linens to protect the patient during lateral transfer.



## Use with linen

Linen can mean all, but is not limited to, the following: sheets, underpads, Chux, towels, blankets, slings and deflated air-assisted devices.

If the slide-board transfer method is used with the PATRAN slide sheet inserted halfway under the patient, then caregivers pull only on the linen. The slide sheet may need to be reinserted for a subsequent move.

PATRAN design allows another placement option for lateral transfer that provides more coverage against friction and shear. Insert the PATRAN so the patient is centered on the slide sheet with desired linen in between. Then roll the linen and PATRAN together on the long edge. The slide sheet will not need to be removed and reinserted for subsequent moves.



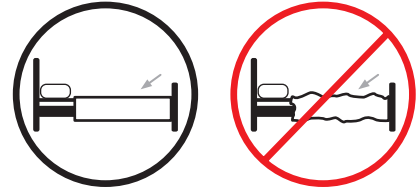
For repositioning and most other tasks, pull only on the linen.

If linen is not available, use two PATRAN slide sheets directly on top of each other. Treat the top PATRAN as linen when following the techniques for lateral transfer and repositioning.

## Troubleshooting linen issues

When using the unfolding insertion method for repositioning, pull down the folded PATRAN slide sheet, so it extends under the top of a shorter linen before starting to unfold. Not clearing the linen will cause the PATRAN to get caught.

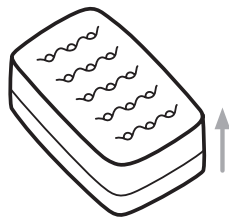
Loose, knit linen can prevent the unfolding method from working when inserting for repositioning. Pulling tight on the fitted sheet with one hand will provide a taut surface to unfold the PATRAN.



When transferring with a fitted sheet, the caregivers should stretch the linen taut before rolling it up with the PATRAN. If the fitted sheet is not pulled taut it will take more time and effort to move the patient and possibly cause the PATRAN to tear.

## Use bed controls

Air-powered support surfaces should be fully inflated (max air) when using PATRAN slide sheets. After PATRAN use, deflate the mattress as desired.



Raise the bed height to the top of the hip of the shortest caregiver during in-bed repositioning and lateral transfer. It will promote sliding, and prevent lifting, of the patient.

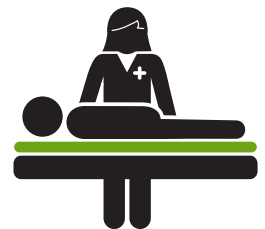
When using a PATRAN slide sheet to pivot the patient to the edge of the bed from supine, elevate the head and lower the surface as close to the floor as possible.



**Tucking** is a good insertion method option for patients whose medical condition requires head elevation.

## Stabilizing for transfer

Using a 72-inch or longer style PATRAN slide sheet provides slipperiness along a patient's entire body for lateral transfer. Use longer linen and a pillow or positioner under the head or feet to provide added stability. If the patient's medical condition requires specific stabilization or medical equipment, such as vents or lines, additional caregivers may need to assist in transfer.



## Considerations during procedures

PATRAN slide sheets can remain under cooperative attended patients during procedures that last less than four hours and during which the surface remains flat. The PATRAN must be placed under linen to protect the patient's skin.



Procedures include imaging as PATRAN is radiolucent and MR-safe.

## Storing

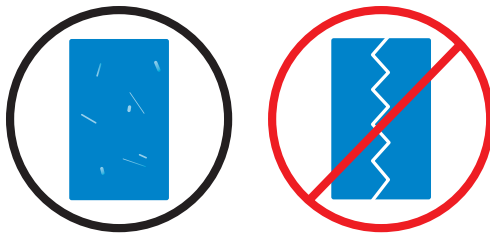
Keep PATRAN slide sheets close to the patient and easily accessible for caregivers. A dispenser holds an entire box of any PATRAN style, and it can be wall mounted or freestanding. Or place individual slide sheets between the mattress and footboard; in pockets or belonging bags hanging from a bed or stretcher or inside a patient room closet; or hanging from a whiteboard clip. Supply carts and closets located close to patient rooms also may work.



## Assessing damage

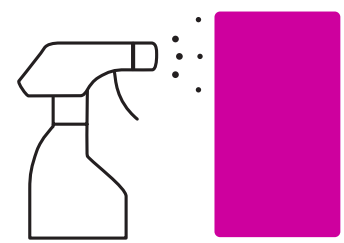
PATRAN slide sheets may get small tears and holes during use. Insertion methods, like tucking, pose more of a risk for damage. However, minor tears will not prevent PATRAN from working correctly.

When used properly, PATRAN slide sheets seldom completely rip.



## Cleaning/replacing

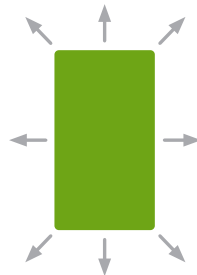
Spot clean PATRAN slide sheets with standard hospital disinfectants. If the slide sheet is significantly soiled, replace it.



## Move in all directions

PATRAN slide sheets are universally slippery, flat tubes that move in all directions, easily sliding laterally, horizontally and diagonally, for more than 25 tasks.

Fold the PATRAN to accommodate certain activities, like inserting a portable X-ray cassette or early mobility and therapy and rehabilitation exercises.



## Instructions available online

Because there are so many uses for PATRAN, we do not print instructions on each slide sheet. Also, printing can reduce the overall slip. We provide product education resources in our [instructions portal](#) and offer training sessions.

To schedule a training session, email [patrans@patran.net](mailto:patrans@patran.net).



Product warnings are available at [patran.net/product-warnings](https://www.patran.net/product-warnings).



414-529-5175 | [patrans@patran.net](mailto:patrans@patran.net) | [patran.net](https://www.patran.net)