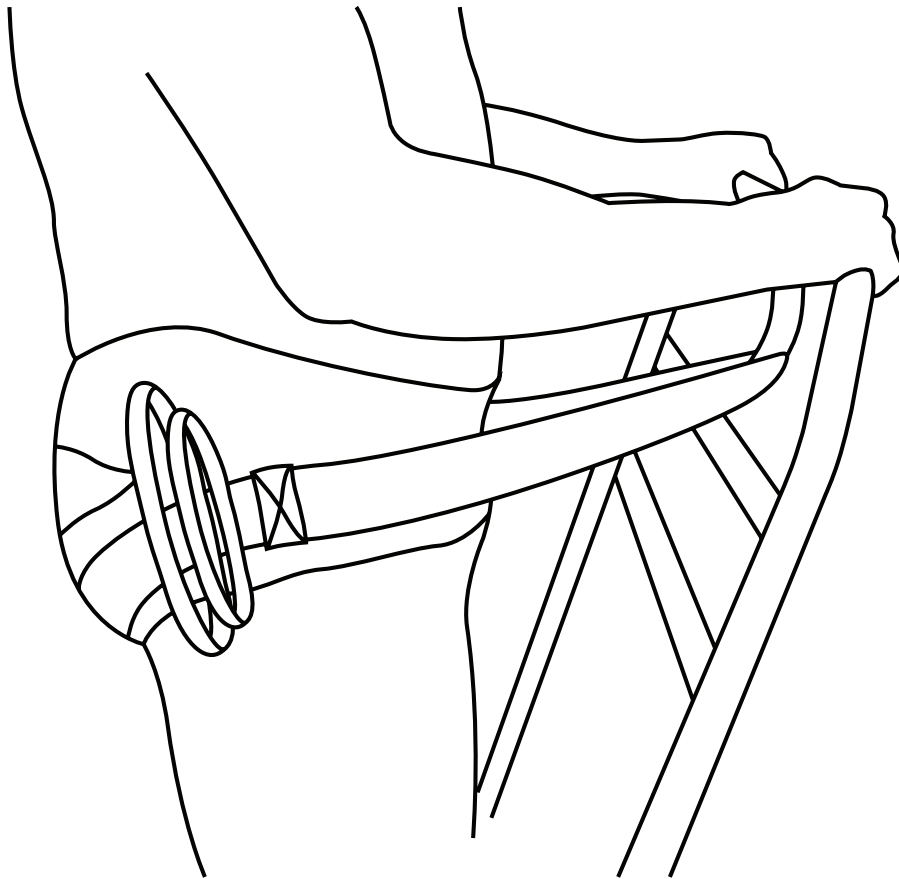


USER INSTRUCTION MANUAL

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# Oxford<sup>®</sup> Patient Handling Belt

To avoid injury, read user manual  
prior to use.



## Introduction

The Patient Handling Belt offers the carer a means of providing assistive support when asking a patient to rise from a seated position to standing. It also provides support when the patient is in a fully standing position.

## Special Belt Orders

On occasions, material, dimensional and other changes outside of the standard specification are requested. Please be advised, that aside of any model specific references, fitting, washing and safety guidelines remain applicable. If you are in any doubt, please contact your authorised Oxford service agent or Joerns Healthcare directly.

## Statement of Intended Use

The Patient Handling Belt is an item of moving and handling equipment that is used to facilitate standing from a seated position and/or walking rehabilitation. It can be used independently or in combination with a compatible manual standing/transfer device (e.g Oxford Switch) to provide assistive support and balance.

It comprises a specially designed and constructed piece(s) of fabric that is placed under and around a patient before being used to help a carer raise a patient from a seated position into standing. Once standing, the belt can be attached to a compatible manual standing/transfer device (e.g Oxford Switch) to offer assistive support and security for the patient. When selected and used correctly, a belt and manual standing/transfer device combination will achieve a safer transfer and reduce the risks associated with manual handling.

It is the responsibility of a competent person to conduct a thorough risk assessment prior to using any belt, to ensure that the choice, method of positioning in the belt and procedure for transfer has been correctly determined for the patient. For further guidance, please contact your authorised Oxford Service Provider or Joerns Healthcare.

**FOR USE WITH ACTIVE MANUAL STANDING/TRANSFER DEVICES ONLY.**

## Expected Service Life

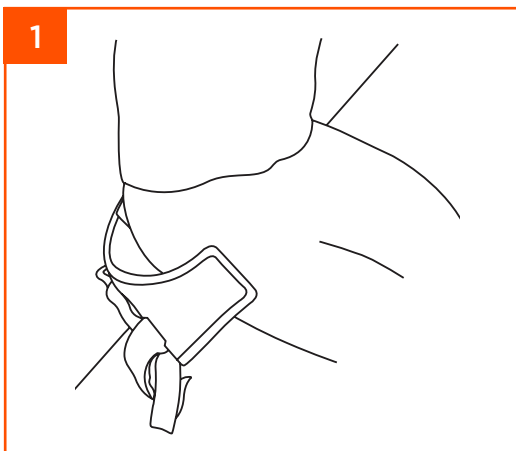
The expected service life of an Oxford Patient Handling Belt will vary dependent on use and following the care and washing instructions provided in the user guide. Factors such as wash temperature, detergents, frequency of use and patient weight will impact on the lifetime of your belt. Joerns Healthcare recommend that belts are checked each and every time prior to use to ensure the safety of the patient. Bleached, torn, cut, frayed or broken belts are unsafe and must be discarded and replaced. For further advice, please contact your authorised Oxford Service Provider or Joerns Healthcare.



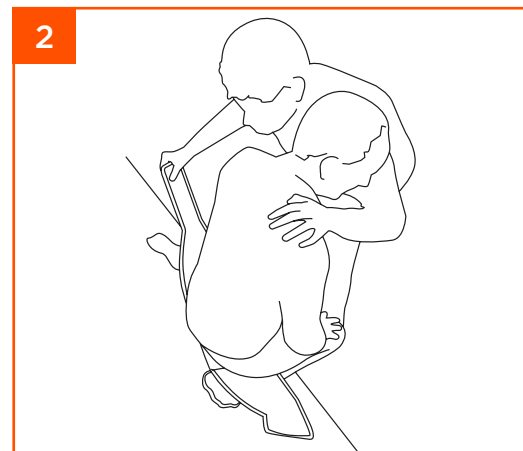
- OXFORD RECOMMENDS THE USE OF GENUINE OXFORD PARTS. The Oxford Patient Handling Belt and Oxford Switch standing/transfer products are designed to be compatible with one another. For country specific guidance on use and compatibility, please refer to the belt label or contact your local market distributor or Joerns Healthcare.
- For the safety of the patient and carer; before using a belt, a full risk assessment must be conducted to ensure that the correct belt choice, method of positioning and procedure for transfer has been determined for the patient.

- The Patient Handling Belt is NOT designed for use with powered active stand aid lifts.
- DO NOT use the Patient Handling Belt to lift a client.
- DO NOT exceed the rated capacity of the belt or device.
- The patient must be able to provide most of the standing effort when using the Patient Handling Belt.
- CHECK belt and stitching before each use. Using bleached, torn, cut, frayed or broken belts is unsafe and could result in serious injury or death to the patient.
- DO NOT alter belts. Destroy and discard worn belts.
- NEVER leave a patient unattended.

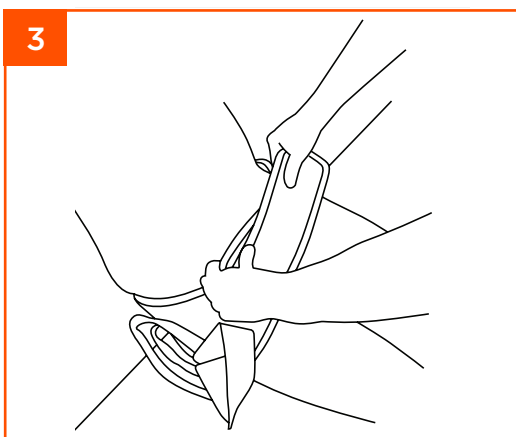
## Fitting the Patient Handling Belt



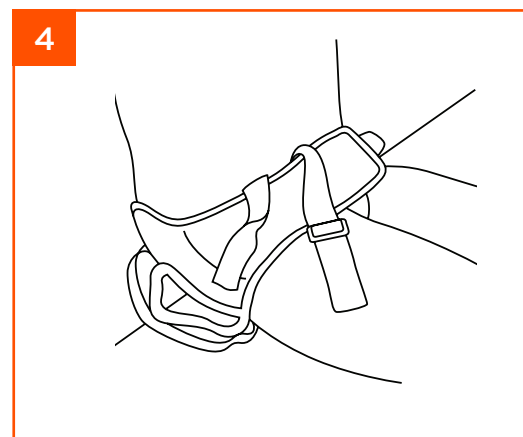
1  
Position the Patient Handling Belt around the back of the patient, ensuring the guidance label is on the outer side and the elasticated section is at the top.



2  
Ask and/or assist the patient to lean forwards before positioning the lower belt section underneath, towards the ischial tuberosities.



3  
Once the belt is in the correct position, fasten the Velcro, ensuring positive and secure attachment.



4  
The long clipped strap may be tucked inside the belt to help avoid any inadvertent snagging. This is used to secure the belt to the Oxford Switch when the patient has risen to a standing position.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This product is not a lifting device and should not be used for lifting. Use of this product must conform to current manual handling procedures and regulations.

## Using the Patient Handling Belt with the Switch

### **WARNING**

**The caregiver(s) must ALWAYS apply supportive and counter force in a safe manner when the user is standing up, sitting down and during transfer. Failure to do this may result in inadvertent tipping and consequential injury to the patient and/or caregiver.**

The Patient Handling Belt is an assistive accessory to help a patient rise from a seated to standing position. It can be used in combination with the Switch to not only help with standing but also to offer continued support once the patient is in a standing position.

The Patient Handling Belt provides a cradle-like support for comfort and has two handles on each side for carer-assisted standing. A longer strap, secured with a locking clip can then be looped around the attachment point on the Switch and adjusted to provide additional security and support once a standing position is achieved.

#### **Dual Carer Use:**

Having fitted the Patient Handling Belt to the patient (see separate user guide), apply both brakes on the Switch to ensure a stable and secure platform.

Place the patient's feet on the base plate, using the feet decals as a positioning guide.

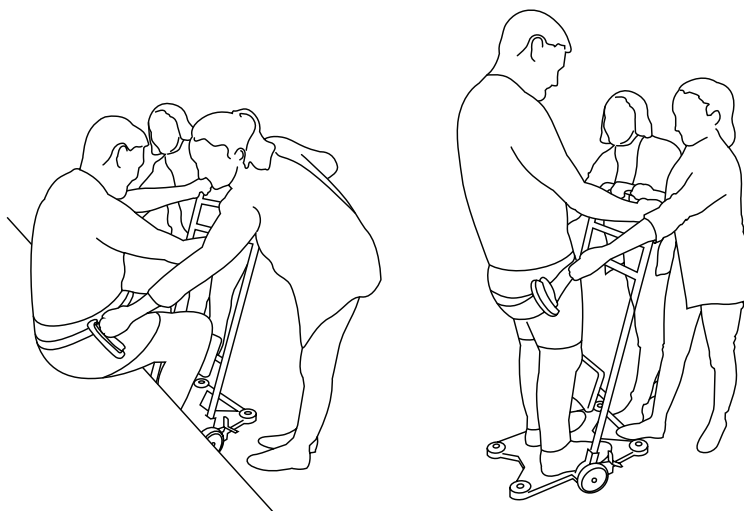
Ask the patient to lean forwards and grab hold of one of the frame rungs, appropriate to their height, reach and comfort.

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### **CAUTION**

**Caregiver(s) must ensure the patient maintains the correct position throughout the transfer.**

With a carer on either side of the patient providing support and reassurance, select and grasp the appropriate handles on the Patient Handling Belt and ask the patient to stand whilst providing the necessary assistance during raising.



## Single Carer Use:

Having fitted the Patient Handling Belt to the patient (see separate user guide), secure the clip attachment on the long strap to create an extended loop to assist with raising/standing.

Apply both brakes on the Switch to ensure a stable and secure platform.

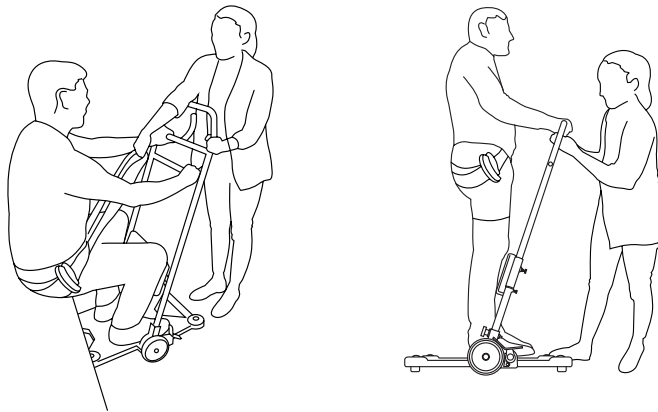
Place the patient's feet on the base plate, using the feet decals as a positioning guide.

Ask the patient to lean forwards and grab hold of one of the frame rungs, appropriate to their height, reach and comfort.

The carer can then use either the longer (clipped) loop or a handle, providing the necessary assistance during raising.



**Caregiver(s) must ensure the patient maintains the correct position throughout the transfer.**



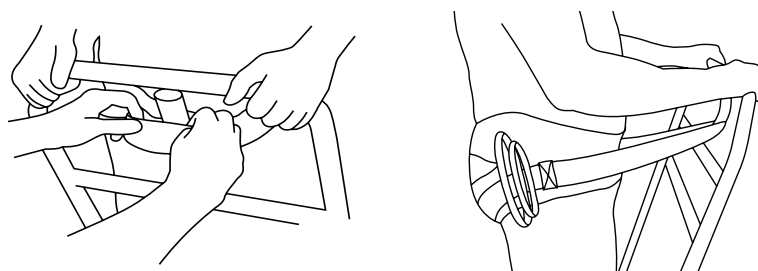
## Attachment of the Patient Handling Belt to the Switch:



**NEVER secure the Patient Handling Belt to the Switch before the patient has reached a stable and fully standing position.**

Once the patient is in the standing position, the Patient Handling Belt can be attached to the Switch by securing the long adjustable loop around the curved vertical hook on the second rung down on the frame.

Feed the longer strap length around the base of the hook, fasten the clip, ensuring positive engagement before tightening the strap enough to provide assistive support to the patient.



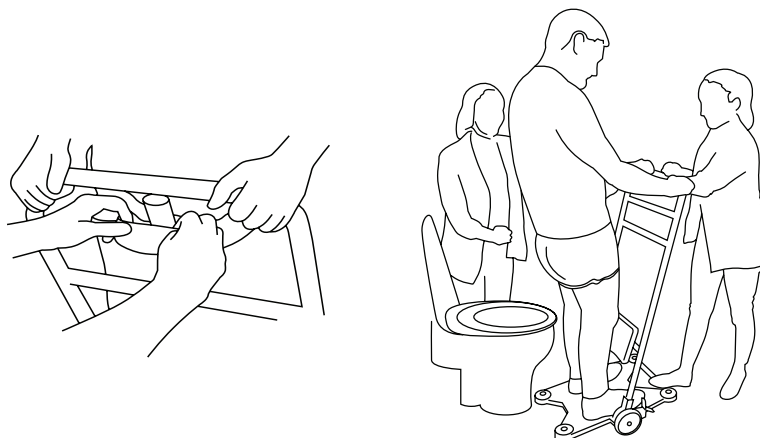
## Returning to a Seated Position:

Position the Switch suitably in front of the target surface and apply the brakes.

Ensure the patient is standing comfortably and securely, keeping their hands on the frame for assistance/balance.

Release the clip on the Patient Handling Belt strap and un-hook from the curved vertical hook. Tuck it away to the side of the belt to avoid any inadvertent snagging.

Providing necessary assistance, instruct the patient to gradually lower themselves in a controlled manner to a seated position.



## Using the Patient Handling Belt without the Switch

The Patient Handling Belt can be used independently of the Switch to assist with moving and handling tasks. This may include assisted standing and also walking rehabilitation/gait training.



**A thorough and careful risk assessment MUST be conducted prior to using the Patient Handling Belt.**

**DO NOT use the Patient handling Belt to physically hold the patient up. The patient must be able to provide most of the standing effort when using the Patient Handling Belt.**

**If it becomes apparent that you are supporting more load than is comfortable/manageable, immediately assist the patient to the nearest and safest sitting location.**

When using the Patient Handling Belt independently, follow the fitting instruction steps 1 to 3, earlier in this manual.

In addition to fastening the Velcro belt, ENSURE the clipped strap is also firmly secured around the waist.

Adopting a wide, stable base and using the side handles, carer assistance can be provided to help the patient rise from a seated position.

For walking/rehabilitation activity, keep close to the patient, providing continuous support both through use of a side handle and holding a hand if necessary

Maintain dialogue with the client, ensuring they feel safe and comfortable throughout the process. If the patient becomes unsteady or you have any doubts as to their continued ability to stand/walk, immediately assist the patient the nearest and safest sitting location.

## Sizing & Safe Working Load

SIZE	SWL
SMALL (RED)	440lbs / 200kg
MEDIUM (YELLOW)	440lbs / 200kg
LARGE (GREEN)	440lbs / 200kg

### Washing Instructions



Machine wash at 80°C.



DO NOT wash with bleach or detergents containing bleach. Bleach will damage the belt's material and make it unsafe for use.



Cool tumble dry, air dry or dry at very low temperature.



DO NOT dry clean.

**IMPORTANT:** All Velcro straps must be fastened together for washing.



**Belts can suffer damage during washing and drying and should be checked carefully before each use.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** We advise that you always seek the advice of a trained clinician, authorised Oxford distributor or Joerns Healthcare prior to purchase or use.



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