**BED RAIL SAFETY ALGORITHM**

**Have benefits to bed rail use been identified or Client/ADM/Caregiver requested bed rail use?**

YES →

- Obtain informed consent for assessment from client, ADM or caregiver

NO →

- Do not use bed rails
- Trial alternative strategies if required and appropriate to minimize risk of injury
- Document as appropriate

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- OT/PT/CC conducts assessment of client's abilities, needs and sleep environment using *Bed Rail Safety Risk Assessment Tool* (CLI.4110.PL.031.SD.06) and *Sleep Observation Study for Bed Rail Use* (CLI.4110.PL.031.SD.04) if deemed necessary.
- Are entrapment risks present as determined by the assessment?

YES →

- Have alternate strategies been considered or trialed?
- See *Bed Rail and Alternative Strategies* (CLI.4110.PL.031.SD.03) and *Bed Rail and Alternative Equipment* (CLI.4110.PL.031.SD.01)

NO →

- Provide appropriate bed rails as indicated by the assessment and client/ADM/caregiver
- Proceed to Documentation Step Below

YES →

Do benefits of bed rail use outweigh the risks OR is Client/ADM/Caregiver refusing Alternative Strategies?

NO →

- Discuss strategies with client/ADM/caregiver and other team members. Trial alternative strategies and equipment as appropriate.
- Are strategies working AND/OR is Client/ADM/Caregiver in agreement with strategy use?

NO →

YES →

- Continue with strategies/equipment and no bed rails
- Proceed to Documentation Step Below

YES →

- Discuss risks versus benefits with client/ADM/caregiver
- Determine what size bed rail is appropriate – if providing full or ¾ length rails, discuss with a colleague to ensure all other options have been exhausted; colleague co-signs *Bed rail Safety Risk Assessment Tool*

NO →

- Do not use bed rail.
- Discuss clinical reasoning with client/ADM/Caregiver and team members and determine next steps
- Document all assessments, recommendations and discussions on *Bed rail Safety Risk Assessment Tool* and make notation of form completion in client's health record

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- Provide client/ADM/caregiver with written equipment recommendations and instructions as needed
- Provide education to client/ADM/caregiver as appropriate, including the *Safe Bed rail Use Client Handout* (CLI.4110.PL.031.SD.05)
- Document assessment, recommendations, informed consent and discussions in client's health record
- If Client /ADM/caregiver insists on using bed rails despite OT, PT, CC recommendation of alternative equipment or strategies, document on *Bed rail Safety Assessment Tool form* and in patient's health record.
- Bed rails will not be provided to children and youth that do not meet the minimum height and weights identified by the equipment manufacturer.