Pre-use MOBILITY EQUIPMENT INSPECTION GUIDELINES

Prior to each use - all nurses, health care aides and rehab services staff must check any piece of mobility equipment for signs of damage in addition to monthly facility mobility equipment inspections.



See Mobility Equipment Inspection Policy CLI.41110.PL.011

Note: patient/client/resident used interchangeably

Area of Inspection	Pass	Fail Remove from circulation Follow site-specific equipment maintenance policies/procedures
Body of item, bands & loops Visual & manual inspection: ✓ any signs of damage to material ✓ bleach and heat damage (staining due to bleaching causes premature deterioration of material)	 ✓ no rips/holes ✓ velcro good condition ✓ no signs of damage to material ✓ no bleach damage ✓ no heat damage 	 X Rips/tears or frayed fabric X holes or cigarette burns X abnormal wear patterns/ extreme wear (e.g. crushed webbing or thinning fabric) X bleach damage: any noticeable discolouration X holes or cigarette burns extreme wear (e.g. crushed webbing or thinning fabric) X bleach damage: any noticeable discolouration X heat damage: overall shrinking of item (e.g. shrunken label or shrinking or scrunching of padded leg portion) X brittle, ridged or stiff feel to fabric melting or charring Sit/stand harness: extreme wear → Faded colour: ↑ strap is lighter than stitched area loops are curved: stitching on one side of the loop has shrunk
Buckles & Clips Visual & manual inspection: ✓ buckles ✓ clips	ensure locking mechanism → fastens securely ← no signs of damage	 x any part of the buckle is missing/cracked/broken x buckle does not fasten securely x any sign of damage or excessive wear
ID Labels	present & legible ->	 x ripped/missing/illegible or faded x inability to determine size and type of sling NOTE: Any sling with a damaged ID label must be reported to designated staff. Based on vendor recommendations, the site may repair the label, or if the sling is in good integrity and the size, maximum capacity and type of sling can be identified, write required information and return it to circulation.
Stitching: body of item, bands & loops incl. connections/stress points	• no signs of fraying	 fraying, loose, broken or worn stitching insecure seams wearing and/or loosening of attachment points or weakness noted
Visual & manual inspection: ✓ stitching: all loop/clip/ buckle connections, stress points and any sewn or threaded material seams ✓ manually twist & pull with your fingers ✓ use moderate force and attempt to pull all straps at their attachment points to the body of the item & within each multiple loop attachment	stitching intact → no broken, frayed or loose stitches tested inner & outer loop →	signs of fraying at connections & bleach damage → loops frayed and shrunken → broken & missing stitching on velcro band
Misc.		 knots at any part of the sling pins, tape or other methods to change the shape, shorten or lengthen the sling