Comfort Value™ Universal Slings

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

GBUK
PATIENT HANDLING
CARE & INDEPENDENCE

PRODUCT CODES & DESCRIPTIONS
All COMFORT VALUE™ Universal slings product codes prefixed with:
- CVUP – COMFORT VALUE™ Universal Poly
- CVUPS – COMFORT VALUE™ Universal Poly Six
- CVUP-HB - COMFORT VALUE™ Universal Poly Highback
- CVUPS-HB - COMFORT VALUE™ Universal Poly Six Highback

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE
Please read these instructions before use.

DEVICE DESCRIPTION
The COMFORT VALUE™ Universal slings are non-sterile medical devices, compliant with BS EN ISO 10535. Each sling has a printed label containing all pertinent information.

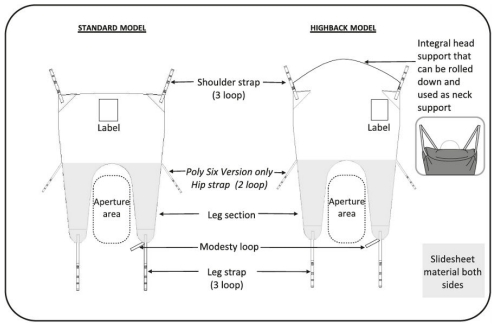


Figure 1

For further information, support and product training requests visit: www.gbukgroup.com

PATIENT INFORMATION
The following information is provided for use by trained healthcare professionals, and carers, and those with the appropriate training or knowledge, however as the learned intermediary between the company and the patient, the trained healthcare professionals and carers, and those with the appropriate training or knowledge must convey the aspects they consider relevant to the individual patient. The patient must be informed of the potential adverse effects & residual risks contained within this document.

PATIENT TARGET GROUP(S)
Intended for patients who require lifting and/or repositioning following a suitable risk assessment.

INTENDED USE
Intended to be used to transfer patients following a risk assessment. The sling should be used in conjunction with a mechanical lifting device (either mobile or ceiling hoist) to ensure safe lifting and repositioning of a patient.

INTENDED USER(S)
The device is intended to be used by trained healthcare professionals and carers, and those with the appropriate training or knowledge. Refer to the Royal College of Nursing Guidelines.

INDICATION
The sling is indicated for use on patients with limited mobility requiring lifting and/or repositioning.

SAFE WORKING LOAD (SWL)
The SWL is provided on the label(s) directly attached to the device.

COMPATIBILITY
Please visit www.gbukgroup.com for a list of compatible hoists.

CONTRAINDICATIONS
- Do not use on patients whose weight exceeds the safe working load limit of the sling.

WARNINGS & PRECAUTIONS
- A risk assessment must be carried out by a suitably qualified individual before any sling is selected and used, to ensure safety for the patient and handler. See 'RISK ASSESSMENT' section.
- Always carry out a visual check of the sling prior to every use for any damage, rips, tears, wearing, loose stitching, material degradation, or any other general signs of wear and tear. The sling should be disposed of in accordance with the disposal instructions, if any of these are present, and/or in the instance of failed LOLER inspection, and a new sling selected.
- Do not use with incompatible hoists.
- Follow local manual handling policy from your organization, National Back Exchange or HSE guidelines.
- All users must be trained or have the appropriate training or knowledge before using the sling.
- Inspect the device, packaging and labelling prior to use and do not use if damaged.
- Do not exceed SWL of the sling.
- The sling is subject to Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) Examinations. A LOLER examination must be performed every 6 months, by trained and qualified persons.
- Wash the sling in accordance with the instructions provided in the 'CLEANING' section.
- Do not bleach, iron or dry clean the sling. Do not use stain removers.
- Do not exceed maximum washing and drying temperatures.
- Do not wash below minimum washing temperature.
- Where the sling has hooks and loops, ensure any hooks and loops are closed prior to laundering.
- Repeated washing may lead to sling deterioration and/or discolouration to some materials or fading of labels.
- Do not place the sling on hot pipes or heaters. Keep away from flames.
- The COMFORT VALUE™ Universal (CVU) Sling does not have head and neck support. Only fit the CVU Sling to patients in a supine position if there is a second trained healthcare professional, carer or other with the appropriate training or knowledge, present, to support the patients head whilst transferring the patient into an upright position.

EXPECTED LIFETIME
The expected performance and safety lifetime of the device is 5 years, however slings may last longer. All slings must be LOLER inspected and the inspection must be within date prior to use. Carry out a risk assessment prior to each use of the sling - Refer to 'WARNINGS & PRECAUTIONS' & 'RISK ASSESSMENT'.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS
- SWL as stated on the label(s)
- BS EN ISO 21856 and BS EN ISO 10535 compliant

DIRECTIONS FOR USE
Refer to 'Warnings & Precautions' and 'Risk Assessment' Sections prior to use of the sling.

From a seated position:
1. With label facing outwards, slide the sling down to the base of the spine, keeping it centrally aligned.
2. Bring the leg sections around the hips
3. Feed them under and up between the thighs.
4. Feed leg straps through modesty strap. Do not cross the straps.
5. Attach leg straps to the hoist followed by hip straps (Poly Six sling styles only) then shoulder straps.
6. Perform a 'tug test'* and check for snagging.
7. Complete the transfer.

Positioning user back into a chair:
1. To assist guidance into the chair, a preferred technique is to use your body weight from the front, pushing on the bottom of the leg lift straps, as the user lowers into the chair.

From a supine position:
1. Roll the user onto their side.
2. Fold sling in half lengthways with the label on the inside.
3. Position the sling with the top of the aperture aligned with the user's coccyx and the centre of the sling in alignment with the user's spine.
4. Fold the uppermost section over the user like a blanket.
5. Tuck the remaining sling material under the user, ensuring straps are tucked in.
6. Roll the user onto their opposite side.
7. Unfurl the sling beneath the user.
8. Reposition user onto their back with sling now spread out fully underneath them.
9. Feed the leg sections under the thighs and between the user's legs.
10. Feed the leg straps through the modesty strap.
11. Raise the bed to a seated position.
12. Attach leg straps then hip straps (Poly Six sling style only) then shoulder lift straps to the hoist spreader bar.
13. Perform a 'tug test'* and, after checking nothing is snagged, complete the transfer.

Loop strap leg configuration:
Hammocked – Ideal for above-knee amputees
1. Cross the leg sections over each other to create a hammock
2. Feed the leg lift straps into the leg link straps.
3. Modesty link is not required for hammocking.

*A 'Tug Test' is recommended to ensure straps are properly secured to the spreader bar prior to hoisting. Manually pull on the straps in a downward motion.

POTENTIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS & RESIDUAL RISKS
As with any procedure involving manual handling, use of manual handling aids, and hoisting equipment the typical risks associated apply. Failure of the device during use may expose the patient and user to risks such as falling, and potential subsequent associated injury, and/or user exposure to sudden mechanical stress and potential associated pain and/or musculoskeletal injuries.

RISK ASSESSMENT
A risk assessment and visual inspection must be performed by competent person(s) before using the sling. This should consider the following factors:
- The physical and medical status of the patient, including skin integrity,
- The status of the sling, including the presence of any damage, rips, tears, soil, loose stitching, or any other general signs of wear and tear,
- The compatibility of the hoist and sling, including if the correct size and type of the sling is being used,
- The capability of the users, using the equipment; and,
- The situation in which it is being used

WARRANTY
COMFORT VALUE™ slings are covered by a 3-year warranty. Any manufacturing defect will be rectified free of charge. Product damage through wear and tear, neglect or accidental damage is not covered.

CLEANING
Routinely clean the sling, in accordance with these instructions and your facility's infection control protocols. Always follow your organisation's infection control guidelines to determine the appropriate cleaning schedule. Provide a copy of these instructions to the person(s) laundering the sling.

1. Where present, close hook & loop fastenings before washing to prevent damage to the fabric and webbing.
2. Wash gently at a minimum of 40°C and a maximum of 95°C. Use a mild soap solution or a non-biological detergent without bleaching additives.
3. Do not add bleach or stain removers.
4. Air dry, cabinet dry or tumble dry on a cool cycle (below 60°C). Do not tumble dry on a hot setting.

STORAGE CONDITIONS
Standard storage conditions. Keep off the floor. Keep out of direct sunlight. Keep dry.

DISPOSAL
No specific disposal requirements, handle contaminated items as clinical waste. Dispose of device in line with local and/or hospital policy.

COMPLAINTS
Any user who has a complaint or experiences dissatisfaction in the product quality, identity, durability, reliability, safety, usability, effectiveness, and/or performance, should notify the manufacturer and distributor immediately.

In the event of a serious incident involving the device, the user should report the event to the manufacturer (GBUK Group Ltd) and the competent authority of the member state in which the user and/or patient is established, immediately, by telephone, email (complaints@gbukgroup.com) or written correspondence.

When filing a complaint, provide the component(s) REF and SN number(s), your name and contact details, and the nature of the complaint.

In the event of a suspected device fault the user should report the event to GBUK Group Ltd with the above information and return the device to GBUK Group Ltd for examination.

COMFORT VALUE™ is a trade mark of Care & Independence Ltd., registered in the UK and other countries and regions.

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