Straight A’s to Prevent Bed Rail Entrapment

▶ Approach
Evaluate the risks and benefits analysis on a patient by patient basis. Consider bed rails as a restraint. Evaluate the rationale for using them.

▶ Assessment
Evaluate patient condition and bed systems for entrapment risk on an ongoing basis.

▶ Actions
Anticipate patient needs; accommodate patient habits/routines; use bed rail alternatives. Remediate bed system systems to conform with FDA dimensional limits.

▶ Awareness
Educate about appropriate bed rail use, alternatives, entrapment risk factors, and resources across the healthcare continuum: patients, families, prescribers, staff, materials managers, healthcare engineers, plant operations personnel.

Descriptors for Areas of Entrapment

ZONE 1 Within the rail
ZONE 2 Under the rail, between the rail supports or next to a single rail support
ZONE 3 Between the rail and the mattress
ZONE 4 Under the rail at the ends of the rails
ZONE 5 Between split bed rails
ZONE 6 Between the end of the rail and the side edge of the head or foot board
ZONE 7 Between the head or foot board and the mattress end

Source:

For more information visit:
www.psa.state.pa.us

This poster was adapted from "I’m Stuck and I Can’t Get Out! Hospital Bed Entrapment."

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