
Plan the move and prepare the environment.

Starting position

- Knees and hips bent.
- Maintain the natural curves of your spine.
- Keep elbows as close to your body as possible.
- Brace your stomach muscles.

Always apply sling with handles on the outside.

If sling is to be applied in lying:

- Lay sling next to child.
- Bunch up side of sling lengthways closest to the child.
- Roll child onto their side away from sling, then slide bunched sling under them, then roll child back onto their back.
- Roll onto their other side, then straighten out bunched up section, then roll child onto their back again.

To apply sling if child is sitting in wheelchair:

- One assistant should bend the child forwards whilst the other slides the sling in behind the child's back, as low as possible, slightly tucking under their buttocks.
- Assist the child to sit back
- Lift the child's thigh up off the seat to slide leg piece of sling underneath

Lifting Effort

Before attaching the sling to the hoist, cross the leg pieces to connect to the opposite side of hoist (unless directed otherwise).

Refer to the Transfer and Positioning Plan to determine which loops are to be used as this will influence the position of child – i.e. lying or sitting position.

Use the mechanical lifter to lift the child.

Completing the move

Take care when moving the mechanical lifter, use your body weight and leg strength to push the lifter, rather than relying on your arm strength.

Disclaimer: This information is of a general nature only and does not constitute advice. Novita Children's Services makes no representations as to the accuracy, usefulness, suitability or application of the information to a child's or carer's particular circumstances. You should seek professional advice before acting or relying on the information.