

# ProSling™

## PATIENT LIFTING SLINGS FOR YOKE FRAME LIFTERS

### User Guide



**General Purpose**

**General Purpose  
with Head Support**

**Hygiene**

**Hygiene with  
Head Support**



warranty



205 kg<sup>S,M</sup>/300 kg<sup>L,XL,XXL</sup>



lifter

## overview

### Slings specifically designed for attachment to yoke frame patient lifters.

ProSling Yoke Frame slings are designed to lift patients from seated (chair) or reclined (bed or floor) positions. With a range of different models versatile enough for general patient transfers, toileting or hygiene care, these slings are manufactured from the highest quality material and are contoured for patient fit and security.

An easy fitting sling with adjustable straps to suit general lifting for a variety of patient positions, the multi-user models are manufactured from a re-usable, long wearing polyester mesh designed to maximise air circulation. The mesh fabric allows water to pass efficiently through the sling, making these products suitable for washing and bathing.

Head support options suit patients with limited upper body support – the built in head support provides a greater sense of security and comfort during transfer.

These slings are suitable for use with either a single or double yoke spreader bar, and will suit the majority of lifter products on the market.

Some lift manufacturers make claims that only their brand of sling should be used on their lifter. There is no Australian Government or TGA directive to support these claims.

## important notice

Before using the sling, it is important to read this user guide and understand the operating instructions and safety precautions. Failure to do so could result in patient injury and/or damage to the product.

The ProSling range has been tested and complies with requirements of AS/NZS ISO 10535:2011.

If you have any questions, please contact Novis Healthcare on 1300 738 885

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## definitions of symbols used

 Important information

 Warning

 Do not...

## slings components

Upper body yoke  
attachment straps

3 lengths; outer strap  
colour-coded by size

Adjustable head support straps

Care label with size marking

Body section

Positioning handles

Torso band  
(Hygiene models)

Padded mesh leg section

Leg section yoke  
attachment straps

3 lengths; outer strap  
colour-coded by size



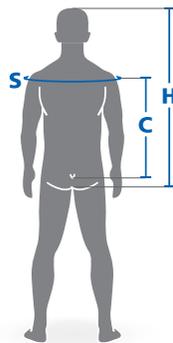
## safety precautions

-  DO NOT lift a patient unless you are trained and competent to do so. Ensure that all users read this guide, and any relevant lifter instructions, before fitting a sling or operating a patient lifter.
-  DO NOT use a Yoke Frame Sling on a Pivot Frame. Sling failure and patient injury could result.
-  Patient lifters and slings should only be used under the supervision of a qualified healthcare professional. As a carer, you are responsible for the patient's safety. You must be well informed of the patient's condition and ability to manage the lifting situation.
-  Never leave a patient unattended in a lifting situation.
-  Never lift a patient higher off the underlying surface than is needed to complete the lifting and transfer procedure.
-  Lifting and transferring a patient always involves a degree of risk. Ensure all users are trained and familiar with the user guides for slings, lifter systems and any related accessories. A complete understanding of the contents of the user guides is essential.
-  ALWAYS ensure the correct sling is used to match the patient's weight and suits the patient's needs with regard to model, size, fabric and design. Do not exceed the weight capacity of the sling or lifter.
-  ALWAYS ensure the sling is appropriate for the lifter and the lifting situation. Exercise caution and care when using lift equipment and accessories.
-  Regularly inspect the sling for damage and general wear and tear, especially after laundering. Check carefully for wear and damage to seams, fabric, straps and strap loops. Do not use if the sling is damaged or worn in any way.

## choosing the correct size

It is very important to use the correct sized sling and ensure it is properly fitted before attempting to lift. This will ensure the patient feels safe, dignified and comfortable, and allows the carer to be confident of an effective and safe procedure.

Use these sizing recommendations as a guide only. The outside strap of each sling is colour coded to indicate size. Please refer to the ProSling Size Selection Chart for guidance on sizing recommendations. This chart is published in the ProSling Range Guide and is available to download from [www.novis.com.au](http://www.novis.com.au)



		<b>S</b>	<b>C</b>
	Size /strap colour	Shoulder circumference mm	Sacrum to Shoulders mm
<b>Yoke General Purpose</b>	Small	700 - 790	460 - 490
	Medium	800 - 840	500 - 540
	Large	840 - 1080	540 - 640
	Extra Large	1080 - 1350	640 - 765
	Extra Extra Large	1350 - 1400	765 - 800

		<b>S</b>	<b>H</b>
	Size /strap colour	Shoulder circumference mm	Sitting Height mm
<b>Yoke General Purpose with Head Support</b>	Small	700 - 780	640 - 800
	Medium	780 - 900	800 - 920
	Large	900 - 1100	920 - 1000
	Extra Large	1100 - 1300	1000 - 1160
	Extra Extra Large	1300 - 1400	1160 - 1200

<b>Yoke Hygiene with Head Support</b>	Small	700 - 860	580 - 620
	Medium	860 - 980	620 - 700
	Large	980 - 1060	700 - 800
	Extra Large	1060 - 1200	800 - 900
	Extra Extra Large	1200 - 1300	900 - 920

<b>Yoke Hygiene</b>	Small	700 - 900	640 - 800
	Medium	900 - 1000	800 - 920
	Large	1000 - 1120	920 - 1000
	Extra Large	1120 - 1230	1000 - 1160
	Extra Extra Large	1230 - 1350	1160 - 1200

## positioning

Slings can be fitted for seated or reclined transfer, using a variation of the attachment loops at the upper body and leg section.



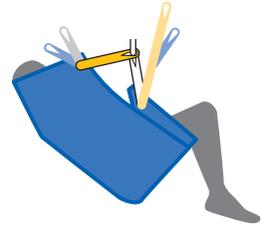
### Upright positioning

Head straps positioned on the shortest loop and leg straps on the longest. Allows patient to sit in a more upright position, with head and torso held vertically and legs lowered.



### Mid positioning

Both head straps and leg straps positioned on the middle loop. Allows patient to recline slightly with legs slightly lifted.



### Reclined positioning

Head straps positioned on the longest loop and leg straps on the shortest. Allows patient to lie in a reclined position, with head and torso reclined back and legs raised.

## lifting

Regardless of seated or reclined positioning, leg straps can be arranged to fit and lift the patient in three ways depending on patient transfer needs or comfort considerations.



### Legs apart lift

Leg straps pass underneath each thigh, from outer thigh, to inner thigh and up to the lifter hook on the same side. This allows legs to hang apart, a position best suited for toilet use, washing and hygiene care.



### Cross strap lift

Leg straps pass underneath each thigh, from inner thigh to outer thigh, and up to the lifter hook on the opposite side. This prevents the patient from falling forward, and is considered the most supportive lifting position.



### Seat lift

Leg straps pass underneath both thighs, from the outside of each thigh and up to the lifter hook on the corresponding side. This cradles the legs together for a more dignified lifting position. To minimise risk of patient tipping forward, head and leg straps should be set in a reclining position.

**⚠** Leg strap and positioning configuration cannot be adjusted with a patient in the sling. Patient must be lowered to a seated or lying position before the appropriate adjustment can be performed. Always assess the patient's comfort and security before raising.

## fitting the sling

Sling may be fitted when patient is seated or reclined / lying down position

### Patient in seated position

- 1 With the label on the outer rear of the sling, position the sling around the patient, with the base of the sling level with the base of the patient's spine and the leg sections lying either side of the patient's legs.
- 2 Pass the leg sections underneath each thigh, pulling gently until material is taut. This will ensure the leg sections support as much of the patient's hip and thigh region as possible. Gently raising the patient's feet may help to better position the leg straps underneath the thighs.  
*If using a Hygiene sling, secure the torso band around the patient's waist. Ensure the buckle fastening is firm and the top of the torso band is clear of the patient's underarm.*
- 3 Position the leg straps according to the patients transfer needs. Refer to the Positioning configurations (previous page) for further details.
- 4 The sling is now ready to be attached to the patient lifter. In general, ensure the lifter legs are widened for maximum stability before approaching the patient. Manoeuvre the lifter carefully to ensure the spreader bar and boom does not hit the patient's head. Refer to the patient lifter manufacturer's user guide for further instruction.

### Patient in reclined or lying position

- ⚠ Always use a full body sling with head support when lifting from the floor.**
- 1 Lay the sling alongside the patient, with label to the rear and facing away.
  - 2 Position the base of the sling next to the base of the spine, and the leg section beside the patient's legs.
  - 3 Move to the other side of the patient (with sling on opposite side) and gently roll the patient towards you. With the patient lying on their side, slide the slinging underneath the patient's head and back.  
*If using a Hygiene sling, secure the torso band around the patient's waist. Ensure the buckle fastening is firm and the top of the torso band is clear of the patient's underarm.*
  - 4 Raise the patient's knees one at a time, to allow the sling leg sections to pass underneath each leg. Position the leg straps according to the patient's transfer needs. Refer to the Positioning configurations (previous page) for further details.
  - 5 The sling is now ready to be attached to the patient lifter. Ensure the lifter legs are widened for maximum stability before approaching the patient. Slowly position the lifter, with one leg through the patient's raised legs and other leg close to the patient's head, making sure the lifter does not hit the patient. Where necessary, use pillows or cushioning devices to provide comfort or protection to the patient. Refer to the patient lifter manufacturer's user guide for further instruction.

## connecting to the lifter

Once the patient lifter is in place, with the yoke spreader bar centrally positioned above the patient (if supine) or in front (if sitting), the sling can be attached.

- 1 Carefully lower the spreader bar to approximately 50 mm above or in front of the patient.
- 2 Select the appropriate length head and leg straps to suit the patient's transfer needs. Refer to the Positioning configurations (previous pages) for further details.
- 3 Slide the strap loop over the appropriate spreader bar hook to attach all four yoke attachment straps to the.
- 4 Ensure the straps are correctly aligned and not twisted. Ensure the straps are sitting firmly within the spreader bar hook and that the safety latch is secure before proceeding.
- 5 Check the patient's safety and comfort level before raising the lifter.

## removing the sling

Ensure the patient is centrally positioned over the bed, chair or other support surface on to which they are being lowered. Gently and carefully lower the lifter, helping to guide the patient and ensuring they are comfortable and secure at all times.

Once the patient is firmly and securely supported on the bed, chair or other support surface, the sling can be removed.

- 1 Push down on the spreader bar hook security latch to open and remove all four attachment straps. Move the lifter away from the patient.
- 2 Carefully pass leg straps through the inside of the patient's legs.
- 3 Undo torso buckles (Hygiene slings only).
- 4 Position the patient as per the fitting process, and gently slide the sling out and away from the patient.

## transfer tips

- Before lifting the patient, ensure both lifter and patient are supported on a flat stable surface and that all attachment straps are properly fitted to the yoke hooks.
- Ensure that the lifter brakes are used properly. Castor brakes should not be engaged when lifting a patient, to allow the lifter to naturally shift to the patient's centre of gravity. Locked castors during lifting increase the risk of the lifter tilting.
- Ensure the support surface from which the patient is being lifted is properly secured and will not move during the lifting operation.
- Always communicate with the patient, before and during the transfer, to ensure they understand what is taking place.
- During the transfer, always suspend the patient close to the floor to minimise the risk of injury due to a fall.
- Use gentle, gradual movements when controlling the lifter to ensure the patient feels secure and to reduce the risk of accidental contact with surrounding objects.
- Where possible, two carers should be available for patient transfers. The second carer can be positioned beside the patient and help to move them into the required position, using the handles on the outside of the sling body.
- Pay attention to the patient's physical and mental well being during the lifting and transfer process. Some patient's may become uneasy, uncomfortable or may undergo muscle spasms. If the patient is showing any signs of discomfort or if the sling becomes unbalanced – stop immediately and lower the patient to a safe and appropriate support surface.

## care and cleaning

-  Do not use high pressure cleaners or harsh, caustic chemicals for cleaning.
-  Avoid contact with excessive heat, acid aerosols, organic solvents or alkalis. If you suspect contamination, wash out well in warm water.

Sling should be washed between patients or if there are visible signs of body fluids and/or substances present.

To wash, use a solution of mild soap and warm water and rinse well. Sling can be machine washed up to 85°C.

Air dry in a warm, clean area away from any direct heat source. Do not place on a heating system or in direct sunlight. Do not tumble dry, iron, wring dry or dry clean.

## safety and maintenance

Before each use, the sling should be inspected for signs of wear and tear. The sling must be inspected more thoroughly at least once every 6 months. More frequent inspections may be required if the sling is used or washed more often than normal.

If any faults are found immediately withdraw the sling from use.

### Regular inspection

Inspect the sling for signs of wear, tearing or fraying. Check for obvious damage to the fabric including webbing burns, cuts or tears, or damage to the wave patterns or core support sections due to abrasion.

Examine the stitching around the base of each loop, all seams and side tape for broken lines, unravelling or any free strands. Slings showing signs of the above should not be used.

### Storage

Store the clean, dry sling in a sealed, airtight bag or container to protect the sling from moisture ingress. Where possible use the original zip lock bag supplied.

Slings should be stored away from sharp objects, chemicals, heat or any other sources of damage or fire risk.

### Expected life time

The product has an expected life time of 1-5 years with normal use. Expected life time varies depending on the fabric, use frequency, washing procedure and weight carried.

## warranty

This warranty is provided by

**Novis Healthcare** (ABN 45 102 735 491)  
of Unit 12, 12 Mars Road Lane Cove West  
New South Wales 2066.

Novis Healthcare (Novis) products are manufactured to the highest quality standards and are thoroughly tested and inspected before leaving our factory. In addition to any statutory rights and remedies you may have, Novis warrants all of its products sold directly or via an Authorised Novis Australia Dealer against defective workmanship and faulty materials from the date of purchase by the end user for a period of twelve months unless otherwise specified for that product and its components.

### Warranty Claims

To claim under this warranty, please contact Novis Healthcare and have your receipt or proof of purchase available. Novis Healthcare may need to assess the defect before determining any claim, and additional information may be requested to process your claim. Claims without proof of purchase may not be able to be processed.

Novis Healthcare may at its option inspect the goods on site or require them to be returned to its premises or one of its Authorised Service Agents in person or freight prepaid by you.

Novis will undertake at its option, to repair or replace, free of charge, each product or part thereof on the condition that:

- The product found on examination, to be suffering from a manufacturing defect;
- The product or relevant part has been serviced regularly by Novis or one of its Authorised Service Agents and has not been subjected to misuse, neglect or been involved in an accident;
- The repairs are not required as part of normal wear and tear.

At our option

- Goods repaired may be replaced by refurbished good of the same type rather than being repaired.
- Refurbished parts may be used to repair goods.

Novis Healthcare will not be held responsible for any repair other than those carried out by it or one of its Authorised Service Agents.

Warranty repairs do not extend the length of the warranty period.

### Limited Liabilities

Our liability under this manufacturer's warranty is subject to us being satisfied that a defect was caused by faulty parts, manufacture or workmanship, and was not caused or substantially contributed to by other factors or circumstances beyond our control, including (but not limited to) defective installation, maintenance or repair, product modification or alteration, any neglect, misuse, or excessive use, normal wear and tear or failure to follow manufacturer's instructions.

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