Bed Grab Handle – Prescriber Risk Assessment

Bed grab handles are NOT designed as a restraint or to prevent falling out of bed. It is extremely important to ensure a person has the correct bed grab handle for their specific needs, that it is compatible with the bed type and that the bed grab handle is installed correctly to avoid entrapment or arm / shoulder injury.

You must ensure the gap between the bed grab handle and the headboard is less than 60mm or more than 318mm to prevent entrapment risks for standard equipment and 420mm for plus size. You should also consider entrapment risks if there is any furniture next to the bed. For example, a wardrobe or bedside table directly next to the bed should be included in your risk assessment and should be less than 60mm or greater than 318mm gap.

Also, the bed grab handle must be fitted as close as possible to the mattress to reduce any entrapment risks. There is also a risk of injury from hitting limbs or body parts on the equipment – potentially from uncontrolled movements during sleep or other medical conditions. Refer [National Patient Safety Alert: Medical beds, trolleys, bed rails, bed grab handles and lateral turning devices: risk of death from entrapment or falls (NatPSA/2023/010/MHRA) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/national-patient-safety-alert-medical-beds-trolleys-bed-rails-bed-grab-handles-and-lateral-turning-devices-risk-of-death-from-entrapment-or-falls-natpsa-slash-2023-slash-010-slash-mhra)

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| Person’s Details: |  |
| Person’s Name  NHS NumberClick or tap here to enter text.  Post Code  Date of Birth | **Name of Assessor**  **Job Title**  **Date of Assessment** |

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| Risk Assessment | Y/N | Mitigations |
| The person has difficulty independently getting in/out of bed and other options considered/discounted? | Y/N | If yes continue assessment  if no expand on rationale for assessment |
| Assessment of the Person's transfer, grip strength and sitting stability has been undertaken and is this sufficient to safely use bed grab handle? | Y/N | If yes continue assessment  If No - why not? |
| The person has a typical anatomy which may pose no increased risk of entrapment i.e. is an adult with (height <146cm, weight < 40mg or BMI of <17) | Y/N | If yes continue with assessment  If no what has been considered, Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Does the person has physical conditions that could cause injury risk of entrapment when using the bed grab handle? E.g. Such as epilepsy, involuntary movements, altered sensation, PEG feeding, tracheostomy, catheter, small or large stature or head | Y/N | If Yes - give control measures or actions to reduce risk. |
| Other risks identified - please state: e.g. does the person have any condition that would limit this e.g. alcohol dependency, cognitive impairment, confusion, dementia, delirium, altered state of consciousness including considering their use of medication and their orientation at night-time? | Y/N | If yes Describe control measures or actions to reduce risk: |
| Have environmental issues been considered where the bed is located? Furniture near bed, other persons; additional equipment, children, pets | Y/N | If yes are mitigations recommended  Click or tap here to enter text.  If no has request been made to installer to validate this  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Does the person understand and remember the risks regarding entrapment and how to use the equipment?  (i.e. can they use it safely, adhering to manufacturer’s instructions include considering their use of medication and their orientation and their preferred sleep position at night-time?) | Y/N | If No - describe control measures or actions to reduce risk (including role of family or carer)  (If insufficient control measures are in place, then do not provide) |
| State Bed Type & Size: Choose an item.  Is chosen bed grab handle compatible with bed style, mattress and any other equipment in use; incl when mattress depressed. (If straps are provided, these must be fitted) | Y/N | (see local BED lever compatibility matrix for guidance)  If No - do not provide |
| Has safe working load (SWL) of product been considered in this provision?  (If no SWL is specified, then answer N/A) | Y/N/n/a | **If No - do not proceed** |
| Does Person remember how to reposition the equipment safely to prevent risk of entrapment understand and remember the importance of not moving the equipment once it is installed? (i.e. location on bed; securing of straps were applicable – carrying out routine visual inspections) | Y/N | If No - describe control measures or actions to reduce risk (including role of family or carer)  (If insufficient control measures are in place, then do not provide) |
| Other risks identified - please state e.g. does the person have any condition that would limit this e.g. alcohol dependency, cognitive impairment, confusion, dementia, delirium, altered state of consciousness | Y/N | Describe control measures or actions to reduce risk: |

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| OUTCOME |  |  |
| Given the Risk Assessment above, is it agreed to provide the bed grab handle? | Y/N | If No - what alternative is considered? |
| Product chosen Click or tap here to enter text. |  |  |

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| Prescriber installation: |  |  |
| Bed grab handle has been installed correctly and safe to use. Photograph taken | Y/N | If No, what actions are you taking? |
| Is person able to transfer safely? | Y/N | If No, what actions are you taking? |
| Have manufacturer’s instructions been provided? | Y/N | If No - why not? |
| Have you provided patient safety leaflet and contact details | Y/N | To whom Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Are there any other concerns / actions required? | Y/N | If Yes, please provide details: |
| Have you considered how this piece of equipment will be Reviewed with this client? | Y/N | Please provide details: |