



Clinical Center Safe Patient Handling Taskforce

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Background:

- In response to expressed concerns, an inter-professional task force convened 2017 Q4 to specifically address the *Clinical Center's Safe Patient Handling Program*.
- Task Force Members include:
 - Department of Rehabilitative Medicine
 - Occupational Medical Services
 - Nursing Department
 - Office of Clinical Quality and Safety
 - Bio-Medical Engineering
 - Environmental Safety Officer

Task Force Goal

Develop and Implement a CC-wide Safe Patient Handling Program

SMART Aim

To reduce patient handling injuries to zero in all patient care areas

Target Population

All staff in the CC with direct patient contact (regardless of IC affiliation)

Work in Progress:

Reviewing best practices identified by:

- Government and regulatory agencies
- Programs successfully implemented in large health care systems

Conducting Gap Analysis Including:

- Review of 2016 - 2017 staff injury data related to patient handling
- Systematic process for assessing patient dependency needs
- Availability and adequacy of equipment
- Identification of high risk patient handling tasks in clinical areas
- Adequacy of training and education directed at health care providers

Preliminary Findings:

- Clinical Center has no formalized safe patient handling program
- No systematic process to assess patient mobility and handling needs
- Inadequate training program for health care providers
- Anecdotally, insufficient access to lift and transfer devices

Moving Forward in 2018Q1

- Complete gap analysis to include full description of current state, best practices and recommendations
- Organize work around components of nationally recognized safe patient handling programs

