TITLE: Mechanical Lift Slings for Patient Transfer in Acute and Long-Term Care: Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines

DATE: 13 March 2015

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of mechanical lift slings for the physical transfer of patients in acute and long-term care settings?

2. What is the cost-effectiveness of mechanical lift slings for the physical transfer of patients in acute and long-term settings?

3. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the use of mechanical lifts and slings for patient transfer in acute and long-term care settings?

KEY FINDINGS

No relevant health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, economic evaluations, or evidence-based guidelines regarding clinical and cost-effectiveness of mechanical lift slings for the physical transfer of patients in acute and long-term care settings were identified by the literature search.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2015, Issue 2), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. Methodological filters were applied to limit retrieval to No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2010 and March 9, 2015. Internet links were provided, where available.
SELECTION CRITERIA

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.

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<th>Table 1: Selection Criteria</th>
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<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
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| **Intervention**            | Q1 and Q2: Mechanical lift slings for ceiling track lifts or floor lifts (e.g., Waverly Glen [rebranded as Prism], ArjoHuntleigh, and BHM Medical patient slings)  
Q3: Mechanical ceiling track and floor lifts and associated slings (any, including generic) |
| **Comparator**              | Q1 and Q2: any comparator mechanical lift slings  
Q3: No comparator |
| **Outcomes**                | Q1: Clinical benefits (e.g., successful transfer, ease of use, reduced rate of patient and health care provider injury), clinical harms (e.g., falls and fractures, head trauma, mortality, injury to health care providers)  
Q2: Comparative cost-effectiveness  
Q3: Evidence-based guidelines |
| **Study Designs**           | Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, economic evaluations, non-randomized studies, and evidence-based guidelines |

RESULTS

No relevant health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, economic evaluations, or evidence-based guidelines regarding clinical and cost-effectiveness of mechanical lift slings for the physical transfer of patients in acute and long-term care settings were identified by the literature search.

References of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized Controlled Trials
No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies
No literature identified.

Economic Evaluations
No literature identified.

Guidelines and Recommendations
No literature identified.
APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Guidelines – Unclear Methodology


Additional References
