# mackworth



## **User Manual**

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OAK RANGE UNIVERSAL SLING

#### Symbols in use



Read all warnings in the Instructions for use



Manufacturers details



#### Prior to use: -

#### Ensure you are aware of the hoist manufacturer's fitting instructions

- 1. Inspect the sling for wear and damage, with particular attention being paid to the body of the sling, webbings and stitch lines.
- 2. If the sling is fitted with a head support, ensure the 2 head stays are fitted in the head pockets.
- 3. If following inspection, there is any doubt, (points 1-2) the sling should be placed aside and not used, then reported to the matron.

#### **User Instruction**

#### How to fit from a seated position

- Place the sling behind the patient ensuring that all handles and labels are on the outside and visible. Feed the sling down the back of the patient. This should be at the base of the spine, and positioned centrally to the patients back. The sling should now lie square across the patient's shoulders. If you find this is either higher or lower than the shoulder line, the back of the sling may not have been positioned deep enough, or the sling size may need to be considered.
- 2. Raise each leg individually and gradually feed the leg straps under each leg, ensuring no fabric twists are evident. Taking the strap from under one leg feed the webbing through the lower loop on the other leg. By carrying out this arrangement, you are ensuring comfort for the patient during the lifting process.
- 3. With the sling now in place, attach the desired loops to the hooks on the spreader bar to replicate the sitting position that the patient is in whilst seated, the straps should be positioned accordingly, subsequently the tension on all four straps should take at the same time.
- 4. Make sure that the loops selected are the same on each side of the sling and ensure that they are still securely attached before lifting the patient. The person can now be lifted as required. To remove the sling, carry out the fitting procedure in reverse. Important – always peel the sling away from the person – this avoids skin friction.





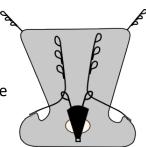




#### **ALTERNATIVE SEATING POSITIONS**

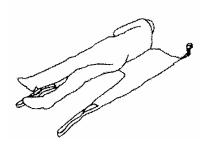
#### Hammock sling

Please note that if a closed leg position is required then for the safety of the patient and the carer it is recommended that a hammock sling be used instead of the universal as the sling has the added security of a physical barrier between the legs, which prevents the patient from slipping forward on the sling.

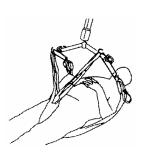


#### **HOW TO FIT FROM A LYING POSITION**

 Using good manual handling techniques roll the person towards you so that they are positioned on their side. To introduce the sling, roll half of the sling up under itself so that when the person is rolled onto their opposite side, the sling can be unrolled until it is flat. Use the centre pocket to ensure the base of the back section is in line with base of the person's spine. Ensure that handle loops are to the outside.



2. Raise each leg individually and gradually feed the leg straps under each leg, ensuring no fabric twists are evident. Taking the strap from under one leg feed the webbing through the lower loop on the other leg. By carrying out this arrangement, you are ensuring comfort for the patient during the lifting process; the four straps should now be attached to the spreader bar hooks. Raise the carry bar just enough so that all the straps are under a slight tension.





3. Make sure that the loops selected are the same on each side of the sling and ensure that they are still securely attached before lifting the patient. The person can now be lifted as required. To remove the sling, carry out the fitting procedure in reverse. Important – always peel the sling away from the person – this avoids skin friction.

\*\*"Providing that a thorough written risk assessment is conducted by a competent assessor" (Reference: LOLER 1998/PUWER 1998), interchangeable slings can provide the right solution for a patient's clinical requirements.

Sling Sizes and coding often varies greatly between manufacturers. However, there is no evidence to suggest that slings and hoists can't be "appropriately matched" with other manufacturer's designs. That is providing that the clip or loop applications are applied relevant to the male fitting and of course a risk assessment is conducted by the clinician / carer beforehand

#### Washing Instructions:

- The sling can be machine or hand washed in a mild soap solution
- Temperatures up to 85'C with a final rinse.
- If tumble drying is necessary use a low heat setting.
- **DO NOT** use any corrosive cleaning agents on the sling to clean



PLEASE NOTE: to avoid any dame in laundering, please ensure any Velcro products are closed prior to washing.

The safe working load and serial numbers are embroidered onto the slings centre tab – **DO NOT** use this tab as a handle or for any lifting assistance.

For the safety of the patient and the carer, before using the sling, a full risk assessment must be conducted to ensure that the correct sling choice, method of positioning in the sling and procedure for transfer has been determined for the patient.

Check sling before each use, bleached, torn, cut, frayed or broken slings are unsafe and could result in serious injury or death to the patient.

### DESTROY AND DISCARD WORN SLINGS / DO NOT ALTER SLINGS NEVER LEAVE A PATIENT UNATTENDED

PLEASE ENSURE THE SLING, IF LEFT CONNECTED TO THE HOIST SYSTEM IN USE, IS SECURED TO THE SYSTEM WHEREBY ANY MINOR CANNOT INADVERTENTLY INJURE THEMSELVES.

PLEASE STORE THE SLING IN A RESPONSIBLE MANNER TO ENSURE IT HAS NO MEANS OF BEING DAMAGED WHILST NOT IN USE OR HAS THE ABILITY TO BECOME A MEANS OF AN INTRODUCTION OF RISK FOR UNINTENDED USERS SUCH AS MINORS PLAYING ON THE SLING AND THE SYSTEM IT IS ATTACHED TO.

#### Operating environment:

The slings are textile based and contain no electrical / electronic installed systems. The slings are used, and can only be used, within the same working environment as the mobile and ceiling hoists to which they are an accessory for use with.

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#### **Contra-indications**

There are no contra indications associated with the use of the ranges of Slings manufactured. The sling is transient in its use and only in contact with uncovered skin for a very short period (5 to 10 minutes' maximum), the sling is not an active device and is non-invasive.

#### Cautions

There are no user medical cautions but as will all devices, the IFU should be read at all times and the limitations of the device understood regarding the usability of the slings.

#### Intended use

This is derived through the information on the previous pages.

#### Standards Applied

The following standards are applied to the product:

- BS EN ISO 10535 Hoists for the transfer of disabled persons –
   Requirements and Test Methods
- LOLER Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations" (LOLER 5 Dec 1998),



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