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Welcome

In this the seventh edition of the newsletter for moving and handling instructors, we have news relating to an investigation into moving and handling practices in a US hospital as well as charity events to raise funds for equipment. The worlds largest mother presents a few challenges for a delivery team, Physios in factories and a

free new manual handling guide from Toyota.

If you are a freelance instructor maybe you could follow the lead from West Yorkshire and seek out your local taxi firm.

Also in West Yorkshire there are grants available which you may be able to capitalise on. The back page has more news regarding on line

training. Please keep the info coming, as well as the praise for the newsletter, it is starting to make my head swell.

If you hear any stories that you would like us to investigate, keep that coming too.

Regards

Gavin Wright
TLC Managing Director

US hospital faces investigation following patient moving incidents

<http://www.nbc17.com/midatlantic/ncn/search.apx.-content-articles-NCN-2008-08-12-0010.html>

It is believed that a hospital in North Carolina could lose government funding after a pair of incidents involving improper patient moving and handling were brought to light.

The NBC17.com website has reported that Cherry Hospital in North Carolina is facing a federal investigation following a pair of complaints.

It is believed that both incidents involved "patient neglect and improper patient handling techniques".

As a result, the

Department of Health and Human Services notified the medical facility's bosses earlier this week that it was being placed on the 'Immediate Jeopardy' status list.

This means that the hospital's managers have 23 days to submit a formal plan to improve the situation.

Failure to do so could mean the hospital loses its centres for Medicare and Medicaid Services status.

According to the website, the facility's director, Jack St Clair, said that both the incidents had taken place

in April and that steps had already been taken to ensure moving and handling skill improved among staff.

Cherry Hospital is a 284-bed inpatient psychiatric hospital. It serves citizens of 33 eastern North Carolina counties.

Although we cannot confirm the nature of the incidents at the moment, it shows the need to follow protocols and approved methods closely. We will try to have more information for the next newsletter.

Lack of staff 'almost stopped terminal cancer patients going home'

<http://www.thisisplymouth.co.uk/news/Peter-able-spend-final-days-home/article-267267-detail/article.html>



"He wants to be home and I want him home so much"

A lack of staff with the right moving and handling skills almost prevented a terminal cancer patient from spending his last months in his own home, it has been revealed.

The Plymouth Herald reported that doctors have only given Peter Fissler three months left to live, after he was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer.

However, the grandfather was told that he might not be able to spend this time in his house because of

a shortage of properly trained home carers.

Mr Fissler has finally been allowed to return to his home, but it took considerable efforts on the part of his wife Val.

"We've only got about two or three months and then the tumour's going to claim him. Every bit of time I've got left with him matters desperately. He wants to be home and I want him home so much," she explained to the paper.

In preparation for Mr Fissler's return home,

Plymouth Primary Care Trust installed equipment to make moving and handling tasks easier. A new bed, hoist and a commode were put into the home.

A spokesperson from community nursing services admitted to the paper that there had been a problem finding staff that could help Mr Fissler. The spokesperson blamed a sharp rise in the number of people opting to spend their last months at home for the delay.

All staff at north-western hospital offered moving and handling training

<http://www.nwemail.co.uk/news/barrow/1.204277>



"Even the catering staff in a group of hospitals in the north-west of England receive moving and handling training as standard."

Even the catering staff in a group of hospitals in the north-west of England receive moving and handling training as standard, it has been revealed.

According to a report in the North-West Evening Mail, all staff at Morecambe Bay NHS Trust are given the best possible moving and handling training to give them the skills they might need to employ when dealing with patients.

The paper explained that the trust was stepping up its efforts to upskill all its staff and compulsory moving and handling training all full and part-time employees was part of the new regime.

Barry Rigg, head of catering services for the university hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust, explained: "We believe our staff should be suitably trained and qualified and we want to give them the skills to move onwards and upwards.

"It all fits in with the knowledge and skills framework."

"I'm absolutely over the moon with the staff who have been developing their skills since 2003. We have built a culture of learning and development, they are all hungry for learning."

Earlier this month, research about the best new moving and handling techniques scooped a prestigious award in the US.

Moving and handling skills used to help 40-stone woman give birth to triplets

<http://www.newsoftheworld.co.uk/news/article14491.ece>

Doctors and nurses at one UK hospital have had their moving and handling skills tested to the limit after they helped a 40-stone woman give birth to triplets.

The News of the World reported that a host of moving and handling equipment was needed to help 40-stone Leanne Salt successfully give birth.

In total, 68 members of staff, including five midwives and four surgeons, had to use their moving and handling skills during the birth. What's more, six

workshop specialists had to design and build a special operating table to support Ms Salt.

A hoist also had to be employed to get Leanne onto the table and then to support her abdomen to give surgeons room to work.

Consultant Manu Vatish explained to the paper: "She was the biggest woman in the world who had ever been pregnant with triplets, so there was no advice available for me.

"I had to construct a

special hoist to support her abdomen during the operation. It weighed more than a human being so it would have been impossible for the surgical team to support it themselves."

There is a video available on the news of the world web site showing just how happy Leanne is to be a mother. Click the headline to be directed to the news of the world web site. If that doesn't work, then follow this link

<http://www.newsoftheworld.co.uk/news/article14491.ece>



"the reality is they have to lift patients, otherwise no treatment occurs"

Modular falls mat, with increased patient safety features

<http://www.hospitalaids.co.uk/>

The Modular Falls Mat™ (MFM) helps reduce the risk to vulnerable patients from injury should they fall out of bed. Its special design is totally new and uses shock absorbency technology, traditionally used in playgrounds. Resulting in a lightweight and slim design but can still provide improved protection. The material has an anti-bacterial coating which enables simple wiping down with a damp cloth and drying with a soft cloth or paper towel. The MFM is CE marked after testing for impact, slip resistance and inflammability.

The MFM comes in two sections which can be interlocked with hook and

loop connectors. The design means that it can be used in residential, hospital and domiciliary environments. To reduce trip risks it has a tapered edge on all four sides. The MFM is remarkably easy to store and comes with detailed instructions for safe use.

The idea for this new product came from Anthony Edwards and Brunny Archman, two OTs from Newham Primary Care Trust, who work in the field of learning disabilities. Anthony and Brunny had been searching for a suitable way to protect their patients who were at a high risk of falling out of bed. Bed rails were deemed no longer

an appropriate solution.

No product on the market could help so Anthony and Brunny put together a blueprint their ideal solution visited NHS Innovations London (NHSIL) to discuss how they might develop it further. NHSIL gave the MFM Proof of Concept funding to transform the idea into a prototype for testing.

Anthony says that "it's been such an exciting process; I can't believe that our idea is now something tangible which we can actually use to help our patients"

NHSIL established links with Hospital Aids, who then took over the design

and distribution of the MFM which was launched at the 'Moving & Handling People 2008' conference in February.

The MFM is available for purchase at <http://www.hospitalaids.co.uk>



"I can't believe that our idea is now something tangible"

New guide to moving and handling published

<http://www.toyota-forklifts.co.uk/En/News/news/Pages/Manual-Handling-Guide.aspx>



"46,000 incidents in the UK last year in which poor moving and handling skills caused an injury"

A new guide to the best moving and handling techniques has been published in the UK.

The latest Toyota Material Handling guide aims to help employers and employees reduce injuries by improving moving and handling techniques in the workplace.

It includes advice about the safest ways to lift, stack and move items. It also offers simple rules to remember when handling loads and data about recommended lifting

weight guidelines.

What's more, the new guide contains information about material handling equipment that could help reduce the risk to employees.

Overall, Toyota said that it believes the document could help employers ensure they are meeting legal requirements to guard against workplace injuries.

Miles Griffin, the marketing manager at Toyota Material Handling UK, commented: "We believe that this [guide] offers employers clear and simple advice to help

them to meet their legal duties and to help reduce the huge number of injuries that stem from manual handling that are entirely preventable."

Figures from the HSE indicated that there were over 46,000 incidents in the UK last year in which poor moving and handling skills caused an injury that resulted in the worker taking at least three days off.

You can get a copy of Toyota's guide by clicking the header of this article and sending an e-mail from their web site.

New factory's bosses hire physiotherapists to help reduce manual handling injuries

<http://kalgoorlie.yourguide.com.au/news/local/news/general/ready-to-get-cracking/1244343.aspx>



"Amber Nicholson"

While we are on the theme of industry, physios from one town in Western Australia are gearing up for a busy few months, as they prepare to help builders working on a new factory deal with injuries from manual handling.

The Golden Mail reported that one physiotherapist from the town of Kalgoorlie, Amber Nicholson, has been booked for a whole month by BHP Billiton Nickel West.

Currently, the company

is rebuilding the Kalgoorlie Nickel Smelter and it expects that many of its staff will suffer injuries as a result of the moving and handling of the special fire bricks that will be used in the furnace.

Ms Nicholson explained to the paper that the bricklayers would be laying 80,000 bricks, each weighing 20 kilograms.

BHP Billiton's Peter Knight added: "BHP Billiton Nickel West is providing bricklayers and other personnel with a

proactive preventative health service during rebuilding of the furnace at the Kalgoorlie Nickel Smelter.

"The service includes physiotherapists and massage therapists for people carrying out significant amounts of repetitive manual handling."

In Sunderland the Nissan car plant employs nurses and physio's to fulfill a similar function.

Swindon hospital reveals nurses are injuring themselves while moving patients

No link available

One hospital from the UK has revealed that much of its staff sickness is caused by manual handling injuries.

A report in the Swindon Advertiser claimed that the local Great Western Hospital took an average of 18 days off sick in 2007.

It added that the hospital's bosses believe that staff absences cost the Swindon and Marlborough NHS Trust as much as £4 million.

According to the

hospital itself, one of the main reasons staff took time off sick was because of injuries sustained moving and handling patients.

In particular, the trust's director of workforce and education, Oonagh Fitzgerald, told the paper that a large number of nurses hurt their backs while incorrectly moving and handling patients.

Recently, a hospital from the US reported how new moving and handling equipment had reduced staff injuries

and improved patient care levels considerably.

After trialling the new equipment in a mock-up of a ward, the systems were installed in the Saint Joseph Mercy health service's the new tower.



"a large number of nurses hurt their backs while incorrectly moving and handling patients"

Sponsored bike ride aims to fund new moving and handling equipment

<http://www.sleafordstandard.co.uk/news/Barbara-to-bike-for-new.4372761.jp>

One nursing assistant from a hospital in the east of England has revealed that she is planning a charity event to raise funds for new moving and handling equipment in her ward.

The local Sleaford Standard reported that HCSW Barbara Ainsworth is organising a sponsored cycle ride to generate funds for the Digby Ward at Lincoln County Hospital.

On September 7th, the nursing assistant will be riding the 13.9 miles from the hospital to the Red Lion pub in Digby village.

It is hoped that the money that is raised by the event can be used to buy a new hoist for lifting and weighing patients. This would replace two older models that are currently in use in the ward.

"I hope that we'll get a lot more sponsorship before the day," Barbara told the paper.

"It's really taken off, now I've got a number of people who will be joining me along the way, doing a couple of miles each."

Recently, the Preston Citizen reported that the Rosemere Cancer Foundation had offered one local hospital over £30,000

to improve facilities (see next article).

Some of this cash is due to be spent on new moving and handling equipment.

If you would like to sponsor Barbara you can do so by contacting her 01522 573161

Barbara, our sponsorship to your bike ride is in the form of offering you a 10% discount of any locomotor or hospital aids product, or 25% off the Ergos Smartlift hoist. Is there anyone else who could offer Barbara something similar? Please contact her.



"Barbara Ainsworth, pictured with colleague Dan Stephens"

Charity funding moving and handling equipment in UK hospital

<http://www.sleafordstandard.co.uk/news/Barbara-to-bike-for-new.4372761.jp>



"We are delighted to have funded a number of projects to aid patient comfort "

Still on the theme of charitable donations for equipment, money has been made available by a local cancer charity to improve the moving and handling equipment in use at a Lancashire hospital.

The Preston Citizen reported that the Rosemere Cancer Foundation has funded more than £30,000 worth of improvements to one local hospital in a bid to improve the services provided to patients with cancer.

All the money has been used to improve the

region's dedicated cancer centre at Royal Preston Hospital.

Some of the cash was used to fund a state-of-the-art hoist system to help safely move patients around the facility.

"We are delighted to have funded a number of projects to aid patient comfort or provide more welcome surroundings for people during their treatment," Sue Thompson, chief executive at the foundation, told the paper.

"Funding for initiatives such as these would not be possible without the continued generosity and support of people who donate to the Rosemere Cancer Foundation or organise events on our behalf."

Recently, US firefighters from Ohio used nearly £10,000 of donations to buy new moving and handling equipment to help them cope with obese people.

Taxi drivers given moving and handling training to help passengers

<http://www.birstallnews.co.uk/news/Taxi-scheme-to-get-the.4344721.jp>



"You freelance trainers – have you thought about approaching your local taxi firms?"

In a bid to help the older residents of one west Yorkshire town get out of their homes, volunteers and staff at the local taxi firm have undertaken moving and handling training.

The local Birstall News reported that some drivers from the Oakwell Cars taxi company from Batley and a host of volunteers have already looked to improve their moving and handling skills as part of a drive to help older residents.

According to the report, the scheme is being run by the local Batley Resource Centre. Its

boss, Hilary Thompson, said that the programme of moving and handling training was launched when it was found that older people were reluctant to take taxis because of their mobility difficulties.

"It has become obvious that many lonely older people would be happy to use a taxi to come to events and activities but they are reluctant to do so as they don't know who the taxi driver will be and whether he will be impatient with them when they are slow to get to and from the car," Ms Thompson told the paper.

During the moving and handling training, the taxi drivers were taught how to best help older people get into and out of vehicles and how to reassure them about the whole process.

One taxi driver, Amer Ashaq, explained that he believed the training had been very helpful.

"We want people to use our cars with confidence and for older people or those with mobility difficulties to feel that the journey is part of the whole enjoyable experience," he is reported to have said.

West Yorkshire Grants available

<http://www.halifaxcourier.co.uk/local-business/Training-cashback-is-still-up.4402233.jp>

Moving and handling trainers in west Yorkshire still have time to convince local manufacturers to apply for a training bursary to help boost workplace skills.

The local Halifax Evening Courier reported that the Growing Calderdale bursary is available until the end of September, meaning that moving and handling trainers have a little under two months to convince local businesses that they could benefit from improved skills.

Aimed at small to medium companies involved in manufacturing, the grant allowed firms to claim

back 80 per cent of the cost of staff training up to a maximum of £300 per business.

Aspire Business Development is working with Calderdale Council to increase awareness about the scheme.

A spokesperson from the firm, Sharon Mackle, explained to the paper: "The bursary is wonderful news for local businesses.

"In addition to helping companies address their staff training requirements we also help them to access funding and other forms of business support

wherever possible.

"Working with Growing Calderdale is proving a huge benefit to our customers who are looking for funding to support their training."

Further information can be obtained from the Growing Calderdale website, www.growingcalderdale.gov.uk, or from Sharon at Aspire Business Development on 07779 542447 or by e-mailing aspire@fsmail.net.



"Working with Growing Calderdale is proving a huge benefit to our customers who are looking for funding to support their training"

Hospital launches new moving and handling drive

<http://www.newsleader.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008808190316>

It is hoped that a new moving and handling scheme will help cut staff injuries at one US hospital.

The local Staunton News Leader reported that Augusta Medical Center in Virginia has launched a new safe patient handling program with the aim of reducing injuries to patients and their caregivers.

According to the site, the scheme will provide nurses with the tools, equipment and training to make it easier to reposition and move

patients around the facility.

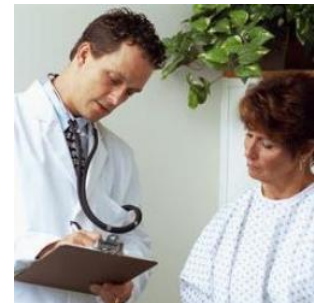
Donnis Wooten, clinical consultant for diligent services at the hospital, explained to the site that the average nurse has to manipulate over 1.8 tonnes of weight in a 12-hour shift.

While Andy Poole, director of therapies at the hospital, acknowledged that the training and new equipment was expensive, he stressed that it was a sensible long-term investment, as it prevents injuries to both staff and patients.

Some of the new equipment the hospital has invested in includes low-friction sheets and a new hoist.

"It's going to be a new dynamic in terms of how we work with our patients," Bobby Sims, a patient care technician specialist at the hospital, told the site.

"It's going to make a huge difference for all of us, in the short term and long term."



"It's going to be a new dynamic in terms of how we work with our patients"

On line training is proving valuable



"Time is a limited commodity"

It has generated quite a bit of discussion as to the benefits and pit falls of on-line moving and handling training, however, the overall consensus is very positive.

Organisations and instructors can benefit from on-line training in that they can prove the individualised training for each member of staff. Time is a limited commodity, so usually a trainer will spend a certain amount of time on the theory aspect of their training prior to moving to the practical aspect. Unfortunately, not all carers fit into the same mould.

To illustrate this, imagine you spent three hours on theory. How much time do you give to legislation,

anatomy, risk assessment etc? Online training means that each individual can spend as much or as little time as they need to meet the standard required. A report is drawn up indicating the amount of time an individual has spent on each of the component parts. Now, imagine you had 24 students requiring refresher training. You limit your class size to 6, so it takes you 4 days to get through everyone. Theory morning and practical afternoon. Some people need more time to grasp the anatomy, some need more time to grasp the law but you are limited by time constraints. If 12 of them had done the theory on-line, this would mean that the same 12 could have their practical done in one day (6 on the

morning and 6 on the afternoon). The other 12 do it the traditional way over the next 2 days leaving you an extra day to ensure you can cater for those who you identified in your practical training require extra one to one training.

If everyone did it on-line then the instructors time is effectively halved (or twice as much throughput whichever way you look at it) with the added benefit of having a detailed report outlining which staff have completed their training and at what success rate.

For further information please print this last page and fax to (0191) 5184333

Print and Fax this for to 0191 5184333, call 0191 5184488 or e-mail info@tlcworld-wide.com

I am interested in the following, please contact me;

- Online moving and handling training for care/nursing staff
- Online food hygiene training
- Online refresher training for moving and handling instructors

- Classroom moving and handling training for care/nursing staff
- Classroom moving and handling training for non clinical staff
- Classroom refresher training for moving and handling instructors

- Moving and Handling Instructors Certificate (5 days classroom)
- Moving and Handling Instructors Diploma (7 - 12 days classroom + distance learning)

Name.....

Address.....

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Tel:.....

e-mail:.....

Best time to call.....