Repositioning is Redefined with Patient Slide Mobility Device

People with difficulty sitting upright often find themselves in the dangerous position of being seated at the front edge of a chair. A caregiver’s first response is usually to grab the person and pull him or her to the back of the seat. Repeated grabbing and pulling of the individual to get them into a proper sitting position can lead to a caregiver unintentionally bruising or irritating the patient’s skin, or possibly causing an injury. Maddak Inc.’s new Patient Slide Mobility Device is designed to provide caregivers with an easier, safer way to reseat an individual to the back of a chair.

The Patient Slide is 46 inches long with three sets of handles to accommodate various sized individuals and seating scenarios. The smooth surface on one side reduces friction, allowing it to easily move across the chair, and the non-slip material on the other side holds the patient safely in place during the repositioning process.

To use the Patient Slide, the caregiver slides the device under the patient’s legs so that one set of handles is on each side. Standing behind the patient, the caregiver then chooses the handles that are best for the situation and gently pulls up on the Patient Slide to allow the device to slide over the top of the seat. While pulling up, the caregiver alternates pulling with the right and left arm until the individual is seated correctly with their back flush against the chair. When the process has been completed, the Patient Slide can remain on the chair or it can be removed.

The Patient Slide Mobility Device has a suggested retail price of $31.99 and can be ordered online at http://www.maddak.com.


Nutrition Powder Boosts Lean Muscle in Older Adults

A supplemental beverage used to treat muscle wasting may help boost muscle mass among older adults, according to a new study presented at the Endocrine Society’s annual meeting. The supplemental beverage, called Juven®, contains three amino acids, including arginine, which is especially important because it increases growth-hormone production, which causes the body to produce a critical protein called insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1). This protein promotes growth and development and, as its name suggests, is similar in structure to the hormone insulin.

Previously, studies showed that Juven helped increase muscle mass in patients with AIDS or cancer. These earlier findings led this study’s investigators to hypothesize that the increased muscle mass could result from greater blood concentrations of IGF-1. They theorized that these increased protein levels could have the same benefits among older adults.

They found that participants who received Juven had significant increases in lean body mass, whereas those who received placebo did not have any change. In addition, blood concentrations of IGF-1 increased among Juven recipients but not among the placebo group. The correlation between the improved IGF-1 concentrations and increased lean tissue, however, was not statistically significant.

Study participants were 29 healthy adults ages 65 to 87. Each received either Juven or a placebo drink twice per day—along with their regular daily diet—for 6 months. At the beginning of the study and again 6 months later, investigators used a special test to measure lean body mass. At both times, they also assessed participants’ blood levels of IGF-1 after fasting.


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