



American Association for  
Safe Patient Handling & Movement

# AASPHM News

**Issue 1**  
**November/December 2013**

## **Welcome!**

Welcome to the first edition of the American Association for Safe Patient Handling & Movement newsletter. The AASPHM news will be published every two months and provide you with an update on the work of the association, as well as opportunities for members to be involved. The newsletter will be emailed to you and will also be available through the member only access point on the AASPHM website.

We welcome your feedback on content and design, and would very much like to hear your success stories, so we can share them with your peers.

Thank you for being a valuable member of the AASPHM.

Heather Monaghan  
President AASPHM

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### **Sling committee update**

AASPHM facilitated a meeting ‘Lifts and Slings: Can you Mix and Match?’ to discuss the FDA guidelines related to sling and lift compatibility at the SPHM East conference in Orlando in March 2013. Over 90 people attended, representing key stakeholders such as manufacturers, health care and safety professionals, facility leaders, and others with an interest in this topic. The goal of the meeting was to identify stakeholder concerns about the FDA guidelines which can be found at

<http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/ProductsandMedicalProcedures/GeneralHospitalDeviceandSupplies/ucm308622.htm>

As a result of this meeting the AASPHM has established a committee that includes representation from the AASPHM, APTA, VA, ASPHP, NIOSH, the UK National Back Exchange, the Australian Association for the Manual Handling of People, and vendors.

The committee is co-chaired by Heather Monaghan, President of the AASPHM, and Lynda Enos, VP of the AASPHM. The group has met several times by phone and is working towards producing a draft guidance document of safe practice for sling and lift compatibility that will be available for review by the AASPHM members in

February/March next year. More details can be found in the committees and special projects section of the AASPHM website at <http://aasphm.org/about-us/committees-special-projects/sling-committee/>.

### **Leaving repositioning slings under patients**

This is currently quite a hot topic in SPHM and there is no consistent practice between healthcare facilities. The National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP, <http://www.npuap.org/>) is working on this issue, and we have secured an opportunity to be part of this work. We are looking for a member of the association to represent the AASPHM on this group. You will be required to have some knowledge of the challenges experienced in this debate and provide a written update to the Board of Directors following any meetings/calls. If you are interested, please email [hmonaghan@aasphm.org](mailto:hmonaghan@aasphm.org) for further details.

### **Online learning**

Our second free on-demand learning video entitled *Myths and Facts About Lift Teams* is going to be available to you in the next week and is delivered by Manon Labreche Short, a national expert in lift team implementation. We will be presenting a new on-demand video every 2 months. The presentation is prerecorded to enable you to listen to it at your convenience and is free to members. Instructions on how to access the free on-demand learning will be posted on the website and a free access code will be emailed to you. If there are any particular subjects you would like to hear about, please contact us. Also, if you would like to develop a presentation please email us at [info@aasphm.org](mailto:info@aasphm.org).

### **Board membership opportunities**

The AASPHM is currently looking to recruit two AASPHM members to join the board from its members. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors please email Heather Monaghan, President, at [hmonaghan@aasphm.org](mailto:hmonaghan@aasphm.org) with your resume, why you would like to be a member of the board, and what you think you can bring to the association as an executive board member. The term of membership is for 2 years and we are a very active board. Nominations need to be received no later than December 17<sup>th</sup> 2013. If you would like to discuss the role further before considering applying, contact Heather Monaghan at 941-907-3268.

### **Feedback on the ANA Multidisciplinary Safe Patient Handling & Mobility Standards**

As you know the publication of the ANA's multi-professional standards on safe patient handling and mobility have created a lot of discussion. To date, the AASPHM has not released a statement on these standards. The board has had several discussions about them and we would like to hear your opinion before we make our final statement. Please email your thoughts to Lynda Enos at [lenos@aasphm.org](mailto:lenos@aasphm.org) by no later than December 15<sup>th</sup>. You can find a link to the standards on the home page of the AASPHM website at [www.AASPHM.org](http://www.AASPHM.org)

### Conference update

The AASPHM is sponsoring the poster presentation at the 11<sup>th</sup> Safe Patient Handling Conference in Orlando, FL in March 2014. We are seeking one member to join the judging panel. If you are interested and have not submitted a poster presentation, please contact Heather Monaghan at [hmonaghan@asphm.org](mailto:hmonaghan@asphm.org) before December 20<sup>th</sup>.

The AASPHM is very proud to be a sponsor of the 5<sup>th</sup> National HealthCare Ergonomics conference (HCEC) to be held on September 8-11, 2014 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, OR. The AASPHM is working with the Oregon Coalition for HealthCare Ergonomics (OCHE) and the Oregon OSHA conference section to offer this conference. The goal of the HCEC is to share best practices and research and practical solutions to address worker injuries across the Health Care Continuum. Conference topics include Safe Patient Handling — From Beginning to Advanced Program Tracks; Patient Safety Ergonomics; What's New in Bariatrics; Lean Ergonomics; Effective Wellness Programs; Design for Human Factors; Ergonomics for Support Services; Program Management ... and more! Visit the AASPHM website over the next few months for more information about this exciting event

### AASPHM Committees and Special Projects

Several members have contacted the AASPHM over the last few months asking about the research and rehabilitation committees. Both of these committees have yet to be established but we are very interested in hearing how many members would like to be involved in each of the committees and what you feel would be the priority topics for the AASPHM to address. If you are interested in joining the research committee, please contact Kathleen Rockefeller at [krockefeller@asphm.org](mailto:krockefeller@asphm.org). If you are interested in the rehabilitation committee, please contact Heather Monaghan at [hmonaghan@asphm.org](mailto:hmonaghan@asphm.org).

We are also looking for two members to join the marketing committee to help with providing information to our members as well as discussing ways to increase membership. If you are interested in joining this committee, please email Maureen Markey at [info@asphm.org](mailto:info@asphm.org).

We hope you have found this newsletter helpful and look forward to receiving your feedback and ideas to help us take the AASPHM forward in meeting its mission.

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***The mission of the American Association for Safe Patient Handling and Movement is to serve as a valuable resource to advance the practice of safe patient handling & movement through collaboration, professional development, and research initiatives, in order to improve the safety and function of patients and residents, as well as enhance the safety of those who provide their care.***