

**CALGARY FAMILY SERVICES**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

**Section:** Client  
(Transfer Belts)

**Policy Number:** C-10

Calgary Family Services recognizes the obligation to assure the safety of Caregivers and clients. To this end, all staff of the Caregiving Program will follow guidelines related to the lift and transfer of clients.

It is required that transfer belts will be used by all staff during care when the Care Plan SPECIFIES the need for belts to be worn.

Safety risks for Caregiver and Client prohibit the performance of two person transfers. If one staff person cannot safely transfer a client, a mechanical or ceiling track lift must be supplied for care provision. Situations which will be considered unsafe for a one person transfer include, but are not limited to:

1. Inability of the client to partial weight bear on a stable standing base of support.
2. Unpredictability of client condition leading to potential inability to weight bear.
3. Weakness on a transient basis where care is normally safe, however client may temporarily be incapable of weight bearing.
4. Environmental conditions which prohibit safe transfers. Care will be provided to the client in an area of the home which is considered safe.

Where there are safety concerns but a client does not fit the above criteria, a nursing assessment should be requested immediately.

If a lift cannot be provided in the above circumstances, care will be provided to the client in bed.

The caregiver, with consultation by the agency nurse, will determine the safety risks prior to completing any transfer.

Related Policy and/or Procedural Statement: Policy C-11; Procedure PS-111-C

Chief Executive Officer's Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Approval: Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_