

Wheelchair Users - Cushion Safety

E-Zec Medical believes it is important to keep in touch with its' valued staff.

Sept 2018

Introduction:

E-zec Medical Transport Ltd always looks at developing our workforce and ensuring that any issues that have risen are communicated to all staff so that we can support and drive person-centered approaches to wellbeing of our service users and prevent incidents that might affect their safe transport.

Issue:

During complying the monthly quality reports for all the contracts it has been highlighted that we have had a number of wheelchair users that during their transportation have slide out of their wheelchair. Some of the incidents have been identified that the patient has undone their own safety belts – Ensure that dementia patients are closely monitored at all times – Ensure that patients are told that they must wear their restraining belts at all times.

Wheelchair cushion:

A number has been attributed to patients sliding of their wheelchair because they have been sat on a Cushion or Cushions and the Cushion has become dislodged.

On investigation:

Cushions were upside down – The manufactures always give the service user instruction on which way the cushion should be placed – some have Velcro that should be placed Velcro side down and are held in place by the Velcro strip on the wheelchair seat. Others have a none slip surface that sits on the chair seat – Most cushions are wipe able at patient contact point – If a patient uses two cushions ensure that they are suitable to be transported together – it might be necessary to remove one while transporting the patient if they can slide on each other.

Safety Checks

Check that wheelchair has the correct anchor points for safe transport



Ensure that the cushion is secure and correctly fitted



Ensure that patient and wheelchair is secured by the correct securing straps



DOUBLE CHECK



All see Bulletin - Securing Wheelchairs in Vehicles CG-Bul-35