

## Bathing Procedure – Side-entry Parker Tub

### Instructions

**Assess Patient: (If you are a Peer Resource Team or bath team member or HCC clinician)**

Assess patient using a decision support tool (e.g. Bathing Assessment Tool) to determine the most appropriate bathing option.

Access to a side-entry Parker tub may be:

- standing transfer to bath seat via side-door
- sit-stand lift via side-door
- ceiling track lift

**Prior to Bathing:**

Carry out **Point-of-Care Risk Assessment or Observation** to ensure that it is safe to proceed with the bathing method/transfer identified on the care plan. If not, notify your supervisor.

Refer to the bathing care plan and place anti slip cushions as indicated. Refer to document “Parker Tub Cushioning and Footrest Options”.

**Standing Transfer & Sit-Stand Transfer:**

Lower the tub to the appropriate level for patient to sit on the bath seat.

Can place a wet facecloth on the bath seat to assist the patient to swivel into the tub.

**Ceiling Track Transfer:**

Universal quilted sling is the safest sling option. Refer to safe work procedure for sling application.

Hygiene sling should only be used if the patient is able to keep their elbows tucked against their sides and have adequate shoulder strength.



### Safety Points

Optimally, **if the appropriate equipment is available**, it is recommended that the entire process of **undressing / bathing / dressing** is carried out in the bathing room to minimize patient transport during the process.

Refer to “Point-of-Care Risk Assessment” document. It is an observation of the patient’s physical ability and willingness to carry out the task, as well as an observation of the environment and your own readiness.

Patient must be assessed as capable of a standing transfer using a Mobility Decision Support tool.

Patient must fit the criteria for using Sit-Stand Lift (i.e. be able to hold onto both handles of the lift and stand erect).

Patient must be able to lift their own feet into the bathtub.

Ensure that the tub is lowered to a level that the patient can safely clear the lip of the tub when being transferred.

Mesh Universal slings are not recommended as they can cause significant discomfort to the patient along the edges of the leg sections.

### Instructions

Once the patient is seated, remove the straps from the carry bar but leave the sling in place behind the patient.

**Bathing:**

Raise the tub to an appropriate work height for the care giver.

Position cushions and leg straps, etc. to help support and position the patient.

Walk around the tub to wash and provide care on each side of the patient.

**Transfer out & Dressing:**

Reattach sling straps to the carry bar.

Lower tub for proper clearance.

Transfer patient to a dressing table or a towel-lined wheelchair. Pat them dry prior to seating them in the chair.

Remove wet sling.

If dressing table is not available, transport patient to their room to dress on his/her height-adjustable bed.

Dress patient – Refer to Dressing Assessment and information regarding adaptive clothing.

Leave tub door open after bathing to prevent damage to door seal.



### Safety Points

The footwell may be filled with warm water and reclined prior to transfer; this may be more comfortable, particularly for patients with dementia.

Do not reach across the patient to wash on the opposite side as this will put you at risk in awkward postures.

Dressing table should be height-adjustable to minimize awkward postures.

Use long-handled brushes to clean the tub after patient use.