

Bedrails assessment

Taken from the National Patient Safety Agency's safer practice notice 'Using bedrails safely and effectively'

Name
Number
DOB

		Mobility		
		Patient is very immobile (bedfast- or hoist-dependent)	Patient is neither independent nor immobile	Patient can mobilise without help from staff
Mental state	Patient is confused and disorientated	Use bedrails with care	Bedrails not recommended	Bedrails not recommended
	Patient is drowsy	Bedrails recommended	Use bedrails with care	Bedrails not recommended
	Patient is orientated and alert	Bedrails recommended	Bedrails recommended	Bedrails not recommended
	Patient is unconscious	Bedrails recommended	N/A	N/A

Use the risk matrix above in combination with nursing judgement, remembering:

- Patients with capacity can make their own decisions about bedrail use.
- Patients with visual impairment may be more vulnerable to falling from bed.
- Patients with involuntary movements (eg spasms) may be more vulnerable to falling from bed and if bedrails are used, may need padded covers.

Date	Time	Bedrails recommended? * Yes/no/with care	Comment if necessary	Sign	Print name



Ensure you know how to fit bedrails correctly, including assessing any potential entrapment gaps

*** Use the risk matrix with professional judgement. Refer to full bedrails policy or seek advice if in doubt.**