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The Hoist Prescription Workshop goes Digital

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Introduction

Occupational therapists are experts in the examination of the person and the environment and how they impact on occupational performance. With the global shift in health policy towards community care, therapists are increasingly providing intervention for clients with complex care needs. For clients with significant physical disabilities this can involve the prescription of assistive technology devices including hoists. With best practice guidelines promoting a safe handling approach emphasizing safety as well as efficiency, therapists are required to be proficient in prescribing hoist systems to a high level to meet these aims. With increased demands to continue developing professionally and limited health funding supporting this learning, therapists are increasingly seeking opportunities to access training in a cost-effective manner.

Description

A hoist prescription video series is currently being developed to assist therapists acquire the skill of selecting a suitable hoist, yoke and sling depending on the needs of the care receiver and the care giver. The video series will also focus on skills aimed at reducing the manual handling needed on behalf of the care giver when using a hoist. Incorporating a workshop teaching style, these videos will facilitate participants to problem solving various scenarios using a risk management framework after which a practical demonstration is presented.

Purpose

This poster will outline:

- The planned development of the hoist prescription self-instructional video series to assist occupational therapists with prescribing hoists for care givers and care receivers.
- The learning objectives of each video in the series.
- The planned evaluation of the video series to determine its effectiveness in the education of therapists in the prescription and ergonomic use of a hoist.

Conclusion

Hoist prescription demands a comprehensive assessment to determine the needs of both care receiver and care giver in the transfer process. This video series will offer a procedure of assessment as well as demonstrating a method for the ergonomic use of a hoist, to enable therapists commence the clinical reasoning process in selecting the most suitable system for both parties. The digit format of this training will enable therapists access this learning in a cost effective manner.