

URGENT FIELD SAFETY NOTICE: SM/FSN/SLH

Date: 25th of July 2014

Urgent Safety Information: This information is especially directed to the professionals that are responsible for the service and maintenance of these products, and to staff who care for patients in private homes and residential care homes.

Sunrise Medical Ltd would like to advise all users of the Sunlift range of Hoists of important new information relating to conditions of use and revised inspection criteria.

The revised information covers conditions of use, daily checks, and ongoing maintenance requirements which will reduce possible damage to the hoist legs which in turn may affect the stability of the hoist.

Action to be taken

To ensure correct use of the Sunlift hoist the information in the instructions for use must be strictly followed.

This information can be found in the section 3 **Titled Safety Information** of the User Guide titled OM Sunlift 25.07.14 **on page 3**.

This information is also available on page 2 of this Field Safety Notice.

The amended User Guide can also be downloaded from the Sunrise Medical website;

www.sunrisemedicalco.uk

Please be advised that this notice will only be sent by Sunrise Medical to those Dealers who have purchased these products from Sunrise Medical. These dealers will forward on the FSN and the Amended user guide to all those users supplied with the affected range of hoists

Transmission of this Field Safety Notice:

Please ensure that the information in this notice is made available to all relevant personnel within your organisation and / or customer base, and that awareness is maintained for an appropriate period.

If you have any questions relating to this bulletin, or should you require any additional information, please contact:

Jeremy Fletcher

UK Regulatory Manager

Tel No 01384 421672

Extract from updated user manual for Sunlift Hoists

3. Safety instructions

- Always familiarise yourself with the controls and safety devices on your hoist before using it to lift a patient.
- Use only slings recommended for use with this hoist.
- Never force any control or safety device. All controls are easy to use and do not require any great physical force.
- Do not use hoists in showers.
- Do not charge hoists in bathrooms.
- Do not use these hoists for any purpose other than lifting and moving patients.
- For your safety please pay special attention to the yellow triangular warning labels indicating the areas where there is a danger of finger entrapment.
- Use the hoist only as per the instructions in this manual.

Before and during each use of the hoist:

- Use the hoist only on flat, smooth surfaces.
 - Please be aware that the physical forces required to move the hoist when laden on carpeted or uneven and rough textured surfaces will be greater than those required on a flat or smooth surface. Careful planning of the lifting operation is recommended in these environments to avoid potential damage to the hoist due to heavy handling
 - Always check before use that the sling is of a type and size suitable for the patient.
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- Do not use the lift until you have check that the actuator is secured at both ends by a bolt and nut.
 - Check the parallelism of the legs of the hoist. If the legs are toed inwards, see Fig.1 (by more than 3 degrees) and not parallel, (the legs closed position(F) as described in Technical Specifications section) and dimension **F** is reduced by more than 100 mm **DO NOT** use the hoist in this position.
 - Always check that the safe working load of the hoist is sufficient for the weight of the patient.
 - Adjust sling as per the relevant instructions for use.
 - Do not lift the patient until you have ensured that the patient's hands are kept within the harness, making sure the patient does not hold on to the actuator or the hoist's mobile joints.
 - When lifting or lowering the patient, the attendant and hoist operator must keep his or her hands away from the actuator and the connecting and turning parts between the arm and the mast.
 - Before moving a patient ensure that they are comfortable and as close as possible to the floor.
 - Move the hoist with care: there is a risk of crushing the feet between the base of the hoist and the floor.
 - To push the hoist along use the push handle on the mast, and never the mast itself, the boom or the patient.
 - When transporting a patient never move the hoist at more than 3 kph or 0.8 metres per second.
 - Do not try to push the hoist over any obstacle which its front castors cannot easily overcome.
 - Do not use the hoist on inclines of more than approx. 5°. SUNRISE MEDICAL recommends that the aid of a third person be enlisted when moving patients on slopes.
 - Never leave the hoist with a patient unattended on a slope.

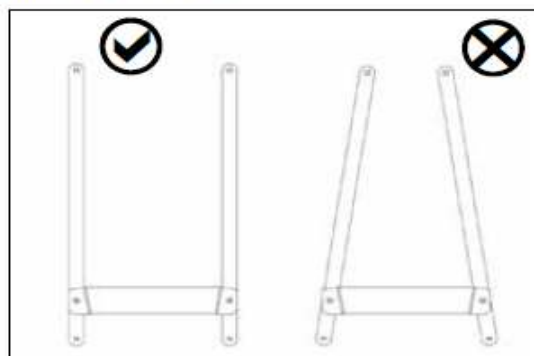


Fig. 1

FSN Receipt / Response Form

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Date:

To ensure receipt of the important safety information contained in the above FSN to all persons necessary, Sunrise Medical requires positive feedback as confirmation.

I, _____, acknowledge I am in receipt of the above FSN.

My relationship to the hoist user is _____

The Hoist serial Number No is _____

The information forwarding* or action* has been completed. (*Delete as required)

Date completed: __/__/__

Completed by: _____

Signature: _____

Please return this completed form to Sunrise Medical
By faxing to 01384 6056689 or emailing to: jeremy.fletcher@sunmed.co.uk