

TRAPEZE BARS



PURPOSE: The purpose of trapeze bars is to assist the user in transferring position. This can be from a bed to a wheelchair, a bed to a chair or aiding the lifting of the user to accommodate changes in position. Trapeze bars are not intended to support the user's total weight. Using a trapeze will allow the user to become more independent in the performance of daily activities. You should consult your physician or therapist for specific transferring techniques.

TYPES: There are many different brands of trapezes, but generally only two basic types. There are the freestanding types that are mounted on a base and are not secured to any objects. This model has increased flexibility in that it can be transferred to different parts of the house where it is needed. It also has less security in that it is not mounted to any fixture and can move or shift if not used correctly. The other type is the clamp-on trapeze. The clamp-on trapeze is the most durable and is clamped onto an adjustable hospital bed. These models have the added security of better attachment, but lack the flexibility of moving around.

USE: The clamp-on type must have its attachment checked daily. The grab bar and chain should be adjusted so the user can effectively transfer or change positions. The elbow is usually bent at a 20 - 30 degree angle when extended. For freestanding models, make sure the trapeze and base are securely fastened to each other daily. Always have the center of weight directly under the grab bar. This will help stabilize the base and aid in the prevention of shifting of the base.

SAFETY: Always check connections and attachments daily. Do not over tighten. Keep unit clean and free from any dirt or grease. Call your medical supplier immediately if you are unable to secure your trapeze or any part is damaged. Discontinue using until unit is fixed and/or replaced. **Do not attach a clamp-on trapeze to any other bed except the hospital bed that was provided by your medical equipment provider.**