Purpose:
To safely transfer the dependent patient using a Hoyer lift.

Considerations:
1. If patient is unable to assist with the transfer, the caregiver must use good body mechanics.
2. The Hoyer Lift has weight limitations and can be difficult for one person to safely manage.
3. When doing a lift transfer, the lift’s legs should be under the bed or spread around the sides of the chair.
4. Slings should be secured and the patient’s head supported.
5. Educate patient and caregiver about procedure.

Equipment:
Hoyer Lift with slings
Stable chair or someone holding wheelchair

Procedure:
1. While patient is lying flat in bed, help roll to one side using draw sheet or, if possible, patient may pull on rails.
2. Place a halfway gathered sling under back of the patient, at the narrow side by the head. Place sling as far as possible under the patient.
3. Roll patient in other direction and pull the remaining sling in place.
4. Attach hooks to the top and bottom holes on each side.
5. Using the hydraulic lift handle, raise the patient until the sling clears the bed.
6. As the Hoyer is moved away from the bed, one person should be supporting the base and the other supporting the patient from the back. If the patient is able he should cross his arms over his chest.
7. Slowly move the base toward the chair making sure that the patient is not swinging too much.
8. When patient is over the chair, one person should be behind to stabilize the chair and pull the sling toward the back of the chair, as the other person slowly releases the hydraulic mechanism, and pushes on the patient’s knees so that patient is centered in the chair.
9. If the crossbar is lowered too much it will hit the patient in the head.
10. Remove the hooks and position patient's feet on the foot rests.

After Care:
1. Assess patient’s comfort and, if possible, his ability to propel the wheelchair safely.
2. Make sure patient has a method to communicate with caregivers.
3. Assess if caregiver needs further instructions.
4. Document in patient’s chart any special instructions or safety measures.