

What are the hazards and how might they harm?



Slip injuries from spillages, trip injuries caused by obstructions



Back and muscle strains from manual handling, stretching or overreaching



Crush injuries, bruises, fractures, amputation caused by entrapment



Bacterial or viral infections (HIV, hepatitis etc.) from contact with bodily fluids



Falls as a result of loss of balance

What PPE should the individual wear?



What other precautions should be taken?



Wear appropriate footwear with slip-resistant soles



Open windows to keep the area well ventilated

Stripping and changing beds

Safety Task Card STCCL 07

Unit Managers – use page overleaf to list any hazards and control measures specific to your site which are not listed below

Safe System of Work

1. Where beds are fitted with raising and lowering devices, you must be trained to use these.
2. Examine the bed and surrounding area for hazards, including concealed sharps.
3. Always take linen off piece by piece and avoid shaking linen into the environment; this prevents material being disturbed.
4. Foul and infected linen should be bagged in a dissolvable liner bag and an outer bag of the correct colour, in line with the unit colour-coding policy.
5. Fill dirty linen bags no more than two-thirds full. Heavy bags should be lifted by two people.
6. Linen bags must be transported in roll cages.
7. Before turning a mattress, check the area and remove any items, such as trailing duvets or sheets, that could be a trip hazard.
8. Mattresses must be turned over by two people.
9. After stripping the bed, wash and dry gloved hands, or if wearing disposable gloves, remove these and wash hands.
10. When transporting clean linen, only carry small volumes, or use a trolley or roll cage.
11. Make sure clean linen is cool and not still hot.

If you have any concerns, stop and speak with your line manager before proceeding.

Stripping and changing beds continued

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List any additional hazards or risks you have identified and control measures required to manage these.

SOP (Standard Operating Procedures)