



SUBJECT: Updated Lincolnshire Joint Policy and Procedure for the Safe use of Bed Rails in the Community (Part A Adults)

RECIPIENTS: Adult Care, Adult Care Commissioning (Children's Services including schools for information)

ISSUE DATE: March 2014 **REF:** HSB30

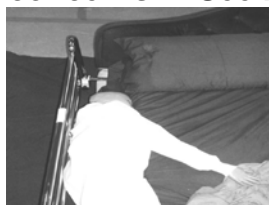
Falls from Bed - Risk Reduction

Adults receiving care services in community settings or in their own home may be at risk of falling from bed for many reasons including poor mobility, dementia, visual impairment and the effects of their treatment or medication.

A risk assessment is required if a risk of falling from bed is identified to reduce the risk of injury. There are many risk reduction measures that can be considered including the use of bed rails.

The use of bed rails must be carefully assessed by competent persons as they can introduce additional risks and in some cases serious or fatal injuries have occurred as a result of using bed rails. Many of these incidents could have been prevented if adequate risk assessments and monitoring had been in place.

Bed Rails - What are the concerns? See below:



The Lincolnshire Joint Policy and Procedure for the Safe Use of Bed Rails in the Community (Part A Adults) has been updated and is now available as Appendix M of the Lincolnshire Moving and Handling People Policy G12. See: [G12 Appendix M](#)

The policy includes guidance on assessing risks to the person, selecting appropriate control measures and monitoring that the control measures are effective.

**If you require further assistance or clarification on the subject please contact:
Health and Safety Adviser liz.dirjal@mouchel-lincoln.com Tel: 01522 836726 or
Corporate Backcare Adviser alison.gibson@lincolnshire.gov.uk Tel: 07795332386**