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FAQ No.: 35

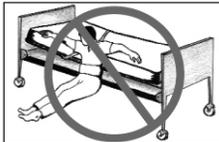
FAQ: Are siderails considered double restraints when the patient is in a protective restraint, in bed, and the siderails are in the up position?

Answer: No

The term “double restraint” refers to, using two products on the patient at the same time, to accomplish the same purpose. For example, using a vest and a waist belt on the same patient at the same times would be considered a “double restraint” because you could chose one or the other to accomplish the goal. Both products are not necessary at the same time.

However, using leather ankle and wrist restraints on the same patient at the same time would not be considered double restraint” because they have different goals. One set of restraints for the ankles, one set for the wrists. It is not an “either/or” choice because both restraints are necessary at the same time.

The same is true of USING SIDE RAILS AND A VEST OR BELT RESTRAINT AT THE SAME TIME WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED “DOUBLE RESTRAINT” because they are used in conjunction with each other. The vest or waist belt does not replace the side rails, but rather supplements them.



The purpose of side rails is to prevent the patient’s body from rolling off the surface of the bed and falling to the floor. If the patient is not trying to climb over the side rails then the side rails alone may be appropriate.



However if the patient is trying to climb over the side rails and is at high risk of falling to the floor and injuring himself or herself, then a vest or waist belt would be appropriate to prevent the patient from climbing over the side rails.



Therefore it may be appropriate to use side rails alone. But is never appropriate to use a Posey vest or waist restraint without the additional protection of side rails. Along with the side rails, side rail covers or gap protectors especially with split side rails may be required to keep the patient on top of the mattress, and avoid entrapment zones.



If the patient is in a restraint and they roll off the bed surface or, their body weight becomes suspended off the mattress by going under, around, over, through, or between the side rails, chest compression and suffocation could result.

See the Posey Healthcare Selection Guide Catalog for a complete selection of Bed Safety Products.

For safety and application instructions for all Posey products, please refer to package insert instructions accompanying each product. Copies of all package insert instructions are available on the Posey website at www.posey.com.

We hope that this answers your questions. If you have any further questions, please feel free to call Posey Customer Service at (800) 44-Posey or (800) 447-6739.