

# For safe handling of patients

Look after your slings and inspect them regularly

# Guldmann™

Sling inspections are carried out to protect the patients and care staff, as well as to increase the overall safety in environments, such as at care homes and institutions, where people are lifted and moved using a lifting sling.

According to EN/DS ISO 10535:2021, regular inspections of lifting slings must be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, with a minimum of every 6 months.

## Systematic inspection of the lifting slings has many advantages

During the systematic inspection of your lifting sling, you can regularly identify wear and defects, so that their daily use is always safe and comfortable for both the patient and the care staff. Inspections also provide the opportunity to check that the correct type of sling is available, and to check that there are no more slings of the same size and type than necessary.

Sling inspections must be thorough and systematic, and it is recommended that both visual and "hands on" inspections are carried out. This is because some forms of damage are far easier to detect when the material is physically touched. For example: Material stiffness, defective straps, and worn fabric. Visual inspection will probably not detect all forms of sling damage.

Once the sling starts showing signs of damage, its weight limit cannot simply be reduced with the intention of prolonging the life of the sling. The rule of use should be: if the sling is intact, then it can be used. If the sling is damaged, then it **cannot** be used.

Be careful with damaged and defective slings, and remove them from service if any of the following are present:

- On the straps and/or the fabric itself
1. Chemical and corrosive marks
  2. Melted objects or burn marks
  3. Scratches, holes, tears or cuts
  4. Broken or worn stitches
  5. Missing, illegible or inadequate sling labels
  6. Knots in the sling
  7. Wear and tear
  8. Other visible damage that generate doubts regarding the strength of the sling.

### Documentation of sling compliance

In accordance with ISO 10535:2021 each sling must have its own logbook (in paper or electronic form), which is identified with the sling serial number. All inspections must be registered in the logbook. The sling owner is responsible for the inspection and maintenance of the logbook, including the time for the next inspection, as well as the indication of the name of the company or organisation

that has carried out the inspection. If defects, wear, or other damage that reduce the sling's safety are detected during the regular inspection, then the sling owner must be notified of this immediately.

**Note:** Inspections should be carried out by a suitably qualified person who is familiar with the design, use, and maintenance of the sling.



# Periodic Inspection and maintenance according to EN ISO 10535:2021

### Inspection list

Comments:

**1. Is the sling's label present, legible and complete?**

- Inspect for missing, illegible or incomplete sling label(s). This could compromise identification of an appropriate size of the sling, function of sling, and or weight limit capacity of the sling

**2. Are the lifting straps and stitches intact?**

- Inspect for broken or worn stitches
- Inspect for knots in straps
- Inspect for tears or fraying of straps
- Inspect for snags or punctures or holes
- Inspect for any particles in fabric or straps

**3. Is the fabric intact?**

- Inspect for abnormal wear patterns, excessive wear, abrasive evidence
- Inspect for cuts or frayed fabric
- Inspect for unusual or significant discoloration
- Inspect for snags, punctures, tears, holes
- Inspect for frayed or insecure seams
- Inspect for any acid / caustic / thermal burns
- Inspect for changes in material consistency, e.g. increased stiffness
- Inspect for any imbedded particles
- Inspect for other visible damage that causes doubt as to the strength of the sling

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Sling type: \_\_\_\_\_

Serial number: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection date: \_\_\_\_\_

Next inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Time to care**