

# SoftGuard® Safety Restraint Chair

**Warning** - Use of the SoftGuard® Safety Restraint Chair without first reading and thoroughly understanding the instructions could cause injury or death.

The SoftGuard® Safety Restraint Chair is intended for the Psychiatric, Behavioral, and Medical environments to protect patients that need to be restrained because they are at risk of hurting themselves or the medical staff. If used properly it can reduce the risk of physical harm to both.

Violent behavior may mask dangerous medical conditions therefore patients must be monitored for and provided with medical treatment if needed. **Patients should not be left in the SoftGuard® Safety Restraint Chair for more than two hours** and should be under observation during that time. This time limit was established to allow the patient to calm down, and if needed it allows for the medical staff to seek additional medical or psychological help for the patient. This two hour time limit may be extended, but only under medical supervision (Doctor/Nurse). This extended time period must not exceed eight hours and range of motion exercises should be performed regularly. Therefore it is not recommend patients be left in the SoftGuard® Safety Restraint Chair for more than ten hours total. It will take two or more people to complete the restraint process. Ideally, you would have 4 to 5 people.

**No belt or strap should be tight enough to restrict any blood flow.** The SoftGuard® Safety Restraint Chair must always be used in the upright position.

The SoftGuard® Safety Restraint Chair should never be used as a means of punishment.

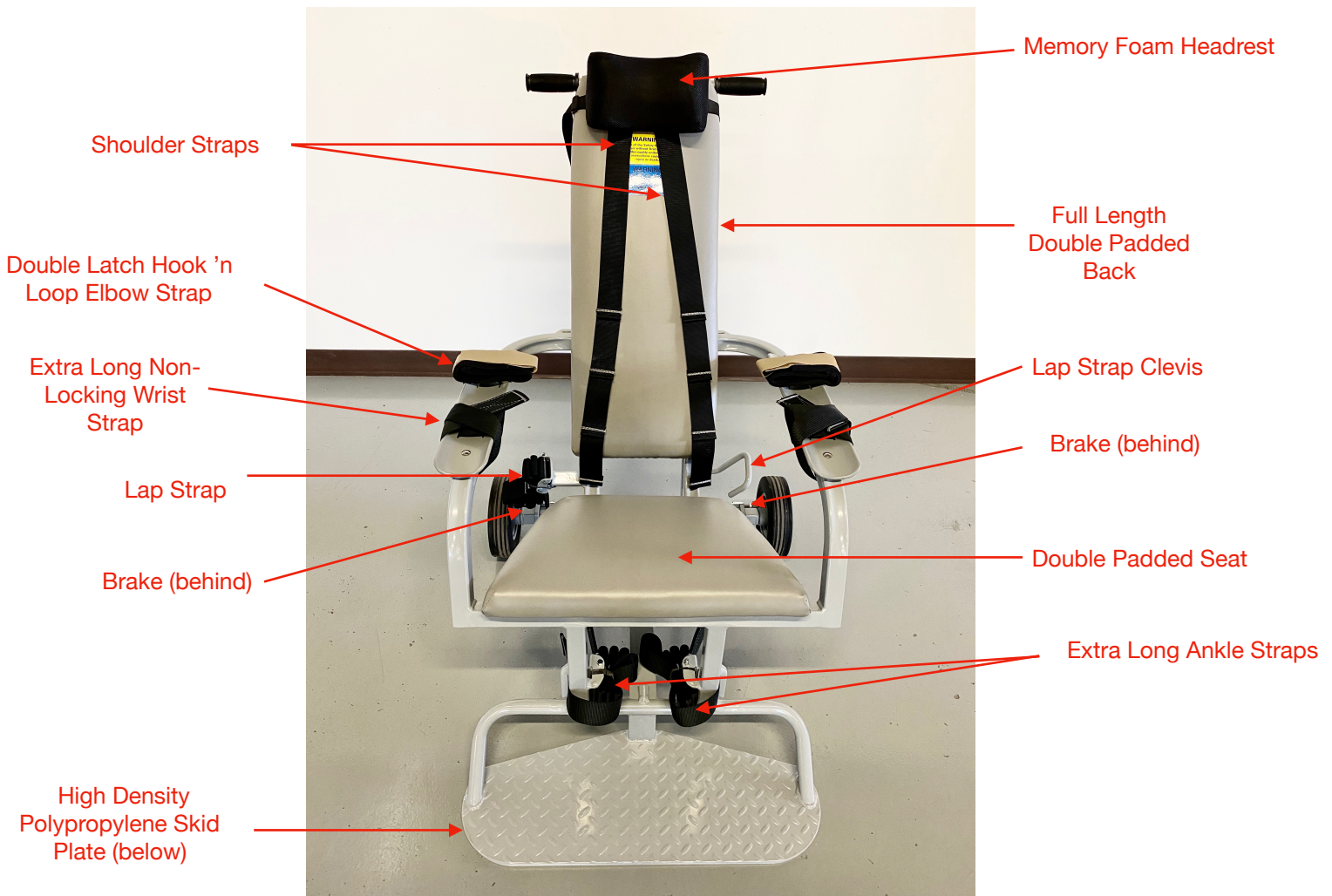
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## **Instructions**

### **Step 1.**

Ensure that all of the patient's personal property has been removed, to include jewelry, glasses, shoes, boots, socks, coat, hat and belt. They should only be clothed in their shirt, pants, socks, or dress.

Note: Before restraining the patient, make sure all straps (ankle, wrist, elbow) are open/loosened. This will reduce the time it takes to attach the straps and make the process safer for both the patient and the medical staff (photo 1).



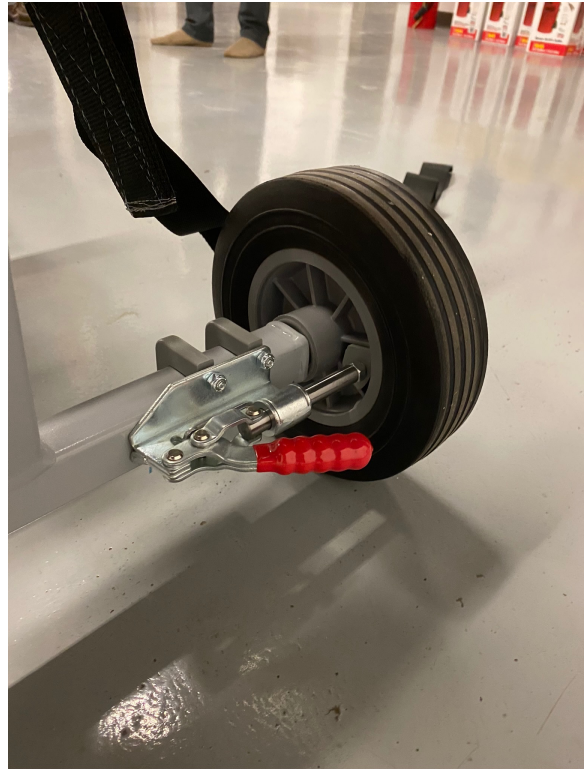
**Photo 1**

## **Step 2.**

Set brakes by putting the head of the brake clamp piston into a slot in the wheel hub. It may be necessary to grip the wheel and roll it by hand to properly align the piston head (photo 2). Push the red handle toward the wheel to lock the brake (photo 3). Repeat on the other side.



**Photo 2**



**Photo 3**



### **Step 3.**

Sit the patient in the chair. Secure the lap belt free looped end in the lap belt clevis, (photos 4 & 5) and pull the strap until snug (photo 6).

Note: To loosen the lap belt, push on the cam and pull the strap up (photo 7).



**Photo 4**



**Photo 5**



**Photo 6**



**Photo 7**

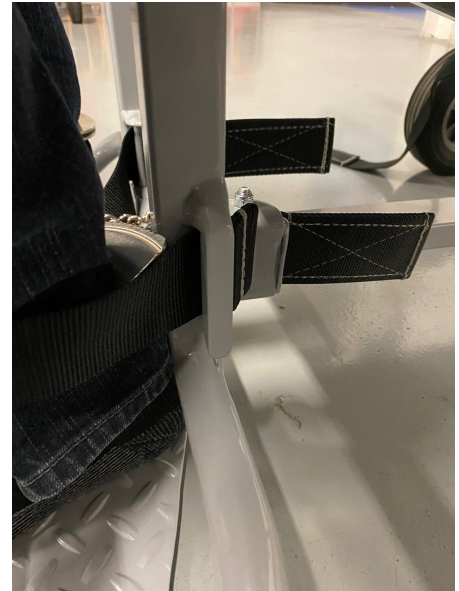


#### **Step 4.**

Secure the ankle strap by passing the free end around the front ankle and securing it to the ankle strap clevis (photo 8). Pull the ankle strap handle until snug while making sure the patient's heel is touching the rear of the foot plate (photo 9). Repeat on the other ankle (photo 10). Patient's feet should rest firmly the footplate with their seat reaching the back of the chair seat.



**Photo 8**



**Photo 9**



**Photo 10**

## **Step 5.**

Take one wrist and place that free arm on the arm rest of the SoftGuard® Safety Restraint Chair. Secure the arm with the left arm strap making sure the wrist is down and flat on the arm rest (photo 11). Pull the wrist strap snug.

**NOTE:** While tightening the wrist strap, the finger of the person restraining the patient should be placed on the outside of the patients wrist, between the strap/arm rest slit and the patients wrist in order to eliminate all possibility of pulling the patients loose wrist skin into the slit while pulling the strap tight. This also allows the patients wrist be held firmly flat in the arm wrist during this process.

Place the forearm (elbow) centered over the elbow soft strap. Double latch the hook and loop strap around the free elbow (photo 12 & 13). Repeat the above process for the last arm.



**Photo 11**



**Photo 12**



**Photo 13**

## **Step 6.**

Install the shoulder strap by passing the free ends over the shoulders, under the armpits, and secure them to the shoulder strap clevises located on the back of the chair (photo 14). Tighten by pulling down on the shoulder strap at the top back of the chair (photo 15). Do not pull the shoulders back too far when tightening the shoulder straps. Straps must be even and secure on both shoulders (photo 16).

Note: Do not wrap the straps around the chest, head, or neck.



**Photo 14**



**Photo 15**



**Photo 16**

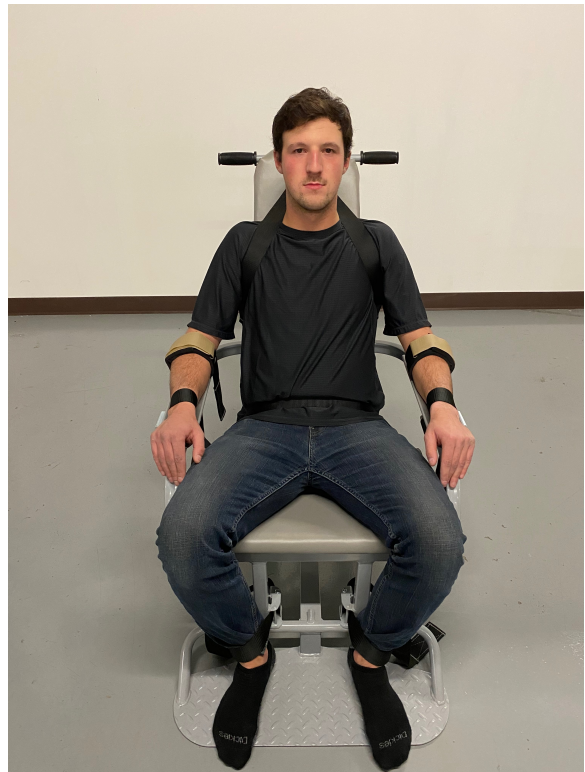


### **Step 7.**

When the patient is fully restrained, retighten the lap belt (photo 17), resulting in a fully restrained patient (photo 18).



**Photo 17**



**Photo 18**

### **Step 8.**

As soon as the patient is safely and completely restrained in the chair, the brakes should be immediately released (photo 19 & 20). Movement should not be possible with the patient completely restrained. This will ensure that the wheel hubs will not break if there is a need for medical staff to quickly move the chair.



**Photo 19**



**Photo 20**

**Chair Cleaning Instructions** - The SoftGuard® Safety Restraint Chair will need to be cleaned and sanitized after being used. Recommendations for cleaning all components of the chair include; mixing one cup (8 fl. oz.) of bleach with one gallon of hot water, or an appropriate bleach or non-bleach wipe. Should your organization's specific bacterial or infectious control policies require other cleaning methodologies and materials it is advised that a trial be performed on the bottom of the seat to ensure it does not damage the vinyl cover of the seat.