Using a BeasyGlyder® to Transfer a Patient between a Bed and a Wheelchair

This information explains how to use a BeasyGlyder to transfer a patient between a bed and a wheelchair and back.

A BeasyGlyder is a system that makes it easier to transfer a patient to and from a wheelchair or other surfaces, with the help of a gliding disk. You don’t need to lift the patient while using the system, which makes it safer for both you and the patient. Speak with your physical or occupational therapist if you have any questions.

Before Transferring a Patient

If the patient becomes confused or weak, develops new fractures, or experiences any other changes to their health, speak with their healthcare team before transferring the patient.

Before helping the patient move, prepare the area for the transfer.

- Gather the BeasyGlyder, square pad, and a wheelchair.
- Prepare the wheelchair by removing both leg rests and one arm rest. Adjust the height of the bed to about the same height as the wheelchair seat.
- If the patient has a catheter bag, empty it out. If a patient is wearing a diaper, check and change it, if necessary.
- Make sure there are 2 people available to help move the patient.
Transferring the Patient from a Bed to a Wheelchair

Follow the steps below to move the patient from a bed to a wheelchair.

1. Make sure the square pad is under the patient’s hips (see Figure 1).

2. Roll the patient onto their side by bending one of their knees (see Figure 2).

3. Help the patient to sit at the edge of the bed. One of the people should support the patient’s upper body from behind (see Figure 3).

4. Grab the edges of the square pad and slide the patient forward to the edge of the bed. Place the patient’s feet flat on the floor without bringing their hips too far forward. Try to have the patient sit at the edge of the bed with their knees bent at 90 degrees (see Figure 4).
5. Place the side of the wheelchair without the arm rest against the side of the bed. Lock the wheelchair. Ask the patient to lean to one side. Slide 1/3 of the BeasyGlyder underneath the patient at a 45 degree angle. The round disc of the BeasyGlyder should be under the patient’s hips and upper thigh (see Figure 5).

6. The person in the front will be the lead person of the transfer. The patient can hold onto the lead person. The person in the back can help by guiding the patient’s hips into the wheelchair (see Figure 6).

![Figure 5.](image1.jpg) ![Figure 6.](image2.jpg)

7. Using the BeasyGlyder as a bridge, gradually glide the patient on the disk towards the wheelchair. If the patient is able to help with movement, encourage the patient to remain upright (see Figure 7).

8. Once the patient is seated in the wheelchair, remove the BeasyGlyder by having the patient lean away from it (see Figure 8). Replace the arm rest and the leg rests that were removed before the transfer. Make sure the patient is in a good sitting position.
Transferring a Patient from a Wheelchair to a Bed

Follow the steps below to move the patient from a wheelchair to a bed.

1. Place the side of the wheelchair without the arm rest against the side of the bed. Lock the wheelchair. Make sure the patient is sitting on the square pad (see Figure 9).

2. Have the patient lean away from the bed. Slide 1/3 of the BeasyGlyder under the patient at a 45 degree angle (see Figure 10). The round disc of the BeasyGlyder should be under the patient’s hips and upper thigh, which should be on the square pad.

3. The person in the front will be the lead person of the transfer. The patient can give the lead person a hug (see Figure 11). The person in the back can help by
guiding the patient’s hips onto the bed.

4. Using the BeasyGlyder as a bridge, slowly glide the patient on the disc onto the bed (see Figure 12). Make sure the square pad glides with the patient. If the patient is able to help with movement, encourage the patient to remain upright.

5. The second person should move around to the other side of the bed, to support the patient’s upper body from behind. Once the patient is sitting at the edge of the bed, remove the BeasyGlyder by having the patient lean away from it (see Figure 13).

6. Help the patient to lie back comfortably in the bed (see Figure 14).

7. One person should be standing on each side of the bed to protect the patient from falling. Help the patient roll to one side so that the square pad can be straightened underneath the patient. Roll up the side of the pad (see Figure 15).

8. Smooth out the pad to remove wrinkles. Help the patient to roll to the other
Repeat the rolling and smoothing on this side of the pad (see Figure 16).

Contact Information

You can reach your physical or occupational therapist at 212-639-7833.

If you have any questions, contact a member of your healthcare team directly. If you're a patient at MSK and you need to reach a provider after 5:00 PM, during the weekend, or on a holiday, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.