

Troubleshooting...

I need a sling...

- ✓ It will be necessary to involve a qualified healthcare professional who is trained to assess for an appropriate product
- ✓ They will carry out a full risk assessment to understand the exact requirements of the patient
- ✓ They will give training to carers on the correct application techniques, etc. for the selected product

I need a bathing sling...

- ✓ It will be necessary for a qualified healthcare professional to carry out an assessment to determine what style of sling is suitable for the patient
- ✓ Once a suitable product has been selected, it can be manufactured in polyester mesh, which will allow the water to drain more quickly

I need a toilet sling...

- ✓ Most full-body, divided-leg slings will have enough 'aperture' to allow for a hygiene transfer, although clothing would have to be removed prior to the application
- ✓ If more access is required a toilet/access sling could be considered subject to thorough risk assessment, however, this style of sling offers limited support so the patient must have good upper body/hip strength

I need a bariatric sling...

- ✓ Check to see if the largest standard size is suitable in the style required
- ✓ All standard slings are available up to size XXL
- ✓ If a standard size is not suitable an assessment will be required. Contact us at silvalea.com/customer-care

I need a standing sling. If this is for use with a stand aid...

- ✓ Check patient can weight bear as stand aid is an aid to stand **ONLY**
- ✓ Check hoist fixings
- ✓ Refer to website for stand aid choices. If this is for a standing harness, refer to website for options [here](#)

I need an 'All Day/In-Situ' Sling...

- ✗ **NO** sling should remain under a patient all day
- ✓ Only careful consideration by a qualified healthcare professional will decide whether to leave the sling under the person for extended periods while they remain sitting in a chair or on a bed
- ✓ A proper care plan must be established based on clinical best practice. A full risk assessment must include regular inspection of pressure points and repositioning
- ✗ A sling **DOES NOT** have pressure relieving properties
- ✓ Consideration must be given if patient is using a pressure care product and what impact a sling would have on its properties

Can I have an 'All Day/In-Situ' toilet sling?...

- ✗ **NO**
- ✓ A toilet sling is structured, has padding throughout and stiffeners that will be too bulky to remain in place for extended periods
- ✓ If the patient has enough core strength to cope with a toilet sling a sling can easily be removed

Can I have detachable tapes on my 'All Day/In-Situ' sling?

- ✗ **NO.** Detachable tapes are no longer available on standard In-situ sling
- ✓ Detachable tapes will be considered on a tailor-made product but must be specifically requested following a risk assessment & disclaimer

Can I have sling pockets for my 'All Day/In-Situ' Sling?

- ✗ Sling pockets are discouraged as once the sling tape is enclosed there is considerable bulk and potential for pressure
- ✓ An alternative would be look at the [Silva Safety Slot](#)® tapes that are more streamline than loops and will easily fold

How do I know what size of sling to order?

- ✓ Determine what style of sling is most appropriate for the patient
- ✓ Locate the sling on the website and check Sizing Guide
- ✓ A Silvalea [E-Assessment](#) can be carried out to assist with custom sizing or tailor made slings

How often should I inspect a sling?

- ✓ Visually check the sling before each use, paying attention to all lifting straps and ensuring that the sling label is clearly legible
- ✓ Follow LOLER (Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998) guidelines if operating within the UK. For rest of the world, please refer to operational regulations within your designated jurisdiction
- ✓ Refer to the Instructions of Use

My product label has faded...

- ✓ It is a legal requirement that all lifting equipment **must be visibly marked** with appropriate information i.e. SWL/size etc
- ✓ If the safety information is **not legible** the sling should be withdrawn from use

My patient is falling through the sling aperture

- ✓ Check size is correct
- ✓ Check style is suitable
- ✓ Check the sling has been applied correctly
- ✓ Check legs sections are not too long
- ✓ Check correct tapes have been applied
- ✓ If patient is still slipping do not use and arrange a re-assessment with a qualified healthcare professional

How long does a sling last?

- ✓ This will depend on how well the sling is looked after and how often it is used
- ✓ Always follow the laundering and care guide given for the sling

Why does the fabric fade?

- ✗ Fading will occur if the sling is **laundered incorrectly**
- ✓ Strong biological or non-biological detergents will have bleaching/whitening agents which will cause fading
- ✓ Always use a good quality non-biological washing detergent
- ✗ High exposure to drying temperatures will also cause **accelerated wear**
- ✗ Chemicals within a swimming pool/hydro pool **can cause fading**. Product should be appropriately washed after each use

How do I correctly wash my sling?

- ✓ Follow guidelines on the sling label & care advice within the Instructions of Use

What is the correct sling for my hoist?

- ✓ View our Compatibility Statement here on our [downloads web page](#)