

Morbidly Obese Patient Slides Out of Her Chair and Needs Help Up.

Paramount EMS paramedic takes the time to explain the new lift equipment he is about to use

Location	Paramount EMS – Dubuque, IA
Provider Reporting	Chad Tatar, Critical Care Paramedic
Patient Event	Obese Patient w/ bilateral knee replacements and chronic back pain can't get up on her own

> The Situation

Paramount EMS provides BLS, ALS, and Critical Care Transport to the Dubuque community. As with most EMS agencies, they also provide lift assistance for patients who may not be injured, but simply need help up. In this case an approximately 400lb geriatric female patient slipped out of her chair and called Paramount paramedics for assistance. Her obesity, bilateral knee replacements, and chronic back pain made it just too difficult to get back up on her own. Since this was not her first time falling she was all too familiar with what was to come. The medics would have to fasten two gate belts together and wrap them around her waist. Inevitably the gate belts would slide up her torso during the lift, ending high in her armpits. Of course this slippage made her afraid of being dropped and caused varying amounts of pain. But this time it was a different scenario. This time, they had the Binder Lift.



Paramount EMS Employees Training with the Binder Lift

> The Binder Lift Difference

According to lead paramedic, Chad Tatar, upon arrival they found her on the ground looking scared and anxious. He instructed his partner to go out to the truck to grab the Binder Lift. While his partner retrieved the Binder Lift Tatar calmly explained to the patient that they had a new device that was specifically designed to help them pick her up. She visibly became more at ease with the comfort in knowing the medics had special equipment to help. After attaching the Binder Lift, the two medics were able to lift her back into her chair with relative ease. Since then she has fallen several more times and has specifically asked the medics to use the Binder Lift when giving her assistance. “Now when we show up to lift her off the floor she’s not real nervous anymore. She feels a lot more secure with the Binder Lift,” says Tatar.

“There are numerous handles on it [Binder Lift], you can grab from many different positions, and it secures to the patient and doesn’t move”

- Chad Tatar, Critical Care Paramedic