

CASE STUDY

EMS > Case #533

BINDER LIFT™



400-Pound Patient Falls in Back Room of “Tetris-Like” Home

Narrow hallway and tight corridors make it impossible to carry patient with soft stretcher or backboard

Location:	Seabrook EMS – Seabrook, TX
Provider Reporting:	Constance Robinson - Senior Paramedic
Patient Event:	Bariatric patient slips on sock, falling and breaking her arm

> The Situation

“We got called out around midnight for a fall with possible broken arm,” said Paramedic Constance Robinson. Upon arrival, Constance and her partner navigated the turning, narrow corridors of the patient’s home. At the end of the hall, they discovered a 400-pound woman in her 60s sitting upright with her arm clutched to her chest. “She said she slipped on her sock, fell on her left arm and heard a snap,” Constance recalled. “She couldn’t get up.” Because of the obvious deformity to her left humerus and the suspected rib fractures, Constance and her partner could not lift the patient using the old methods. Even when backup came, they still didn’t want to use a sheet or megamover and risk aggravating the injuries. That’s when she remembered that her Director had just purchased the Binder Lift, which she had experience using when she worked at different department. After attaching the Binder Lift, the patient “was concerned that she wouldn’t be able to get her feet underneath her”, Constance recalled, “I said ‘we will be able to do it all.’”

Seabrook EMS training with local fire department



> The Binder Lift Difference

With the Binder Lift, the four responders—including “two petite females,” according to Constance—navigated the patient back through the twisting hallways and out to the stretcher. “The patient was amazed,” Constance said. “She was like, ‘I didn’t know how you all would have ever gotten me up.’” Without the Binder Lift, Constance isn’t sure, either. “Whether it was a sheet or one of those megamovers, either way we would have had to manipulate her near those injured areas which could have caused further detrimental injury,” Constance said. Thanks to the Binder Lift, she didn’t have to find out the hard way. “It made every bit of difference. We had a hold of her, and we knew she was secure and safe.”

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