

SOLUTION: Oxford® Calibre Lift, Oxford® Bariatric Hammock Sling & Bari10A Bed

SCENARIO: Clinical Bariatric Testing with Barry Austin

LOCATION: Kidderminster Hospital, Worcestershire, DY11 6RJ

DATE: Q4, 2011

Oxford® Calibre lift, specialised sling and bed deliver proven bariatric solution

case study



Healthcare product specialist Joerns has successfully concluded testing and development of its complete bariatric care solution with the assistance of Barry Austin. Combining the 60st SWL of the Oxford Calibre patient lift, a specifically designed range of slings and a heavy duty adjustable Bari10A bed, Joerns can now provide the optimum moving and handling bariatric package for acute wards.

The Oxford Calibre patient lift was launched in 2011 and represents a revolution in bariatric care. This impressive hoist which is already delivering results for many acute wards across the UK has now been fully tested with a specialist range of large patient slings which are unique to Joerns.

During an extensive R&D phase and clinical trials in real life simulations, the Joerns team led by Mark Cable were able to conclude the optimum sling design for bariatric patients. These slings are now available as a complete solution with a 75 stone capacity and highly flexible sleeping platform and Calibre lift for reduced handling risks and improved patient care.

Several stages of Joerns R&D took place at the Kidderminster Hospital, with a group of specialists who worked with 47 stone Barry Austin so that all criteria regarding safety, comfort and ergonomics were addressed.

"Improving patient outcomes, comfort and dignity is embedded in our product development ethos," says Curtis Jordan, Joerns Marketing Manager. "This bariatric care package clearly reflects this ethos and our in-depth understanding of patient requirements. Through the implementation of core design features focusing on proven moving and handling principles, we believe the Oxford bariatric solution is first choice for all acute care environments."





Primarily to develop and finalise the Oxford bariatric slings for use with the Calibre lift, the clinical trials Barry Austin were hugely success for Joerns. Over a period of several months which included five testing days in situ within a ward environment, the Joerns team efficiently took the sling concepts from drawing board to production.

Several prototypes were developed and with the assistance of Barry, three-dimensional

calculations and adjustments could be accurately performed in real time to assist the technical team based at the Joerns European headquarters. Design changes were then finalised by the Joerns R&D department and sent to the specialist UK sling manufacturer so a subsequent prototype could be assessed.

Every stage of testing with Barry involved several complete transfers from bed to chair and in reverse to ensure the solution was effective.

Key sling features included the removal of all leg sections, breathable material and minimised seams which greatly improved comfort for Barry.

Curtis concludes: "As one of the most established names in the acute sector, Joerns is fully aware of its duty of care to patients. I fully believe the specialist Joerns team have engaged all their expert knowledge into bringing this overall bariatric package to market. We are proud of the result and thank Barry for his essential feedback."

Oxford Calibre Lift

Ergonomically designed and electronically operated, the Oxford Calibre patient lift has been specially developed for the safe lifting of heavy or bariatric patients. Extremely sturdy and robust, the Calibre has an incredible safe working load of 386kg/60st and is able to handle a wide variety of different transfer requirements.

In addition to its exceptional SWL, the Calibre has, fitted as standard, a large 6-point open cradle providing greater patient comfort and a low-profile digital weigh-scale with intuitive easy-to-use controls perfect for patient monitoring. Other notable features include a powered base to allow the Calibre's legs to be opened and closed with minimal effort, eliminating the need to twist or bend when navigating around common obstacles such as armchairs, wheelchairs and bedside tables. The Calibre also comes with several stretcher options and can be used either in conjunction with a scoop or canvas stretcher.

Oxford Calibre Sling Range

Specifically designed to be deployed with the Calibre patient lift, this new range of bariatric slings provides a higher level of comfort, safety and dignity for larger patients. Developed with



well known bariatric patient Barry Austin, this range of five slings includes several advanced features including triple skinned and fully breathable material, minimal seams to maintain tissue viability and highly visible colour coded loops for optimum patient posture.

Bari10A Bariatric Bed

The latest version of the Bari10A bed system has a safe working load of 75 stone (476kg) and is ideal for bariatric patients. It encompasses several key features, which include a retractable width (46–36" / 117–91cm) and length (88–80" / 223.5–203cm) for easier manoeuvring, ergonomic operator controls, integrated scales and foldable side rails that always ensure a safe gap between the floor surface is maintained.

Powered operation, with a battery back-up as standard, allows the bariatric patient to be moved to a variety of positions in a controlled manner which include Trendelenburg, reverse Trendelenburg, sitting or lying high and low for side transfers. To ensure possible back strain is minimised for the caregiver when performing a transfer or daily hygiene routines, the Bari10A is capable of lifting its sleeping platform to 52.5" / 203cm from ground level.

The foot panel provides fast access to all controls and is completely sealed so that electronic components are protected along with an integrated angle indicator, which is required when tilting the patient. The Bari10A also includes an emergency CPR manual release for the head section and conveniently located drainage bag loops.

1. The 6-point Calibre cradle provides greater patient comfort as load is distributed over a wider area
2. The Calibre lift and sling provide high levels of ergonomic handling for the caregivers, minimising potential back strain.
3. Mark Cable, a highly experienced member of the Joerns R&D team performs calculations to optimise sling design
4. The Oxford bariatric slings encompass clearly visible colour coded loops for optimised patient positioning.

The Oxford Calibre demonstration is available on the Joerns YouTube channel at:

www.youtube.com/user/joernshealthcare

or via the Resources section at: www.Joerns.co.uk

Bariatric patient recommendation:

Barry Austin from Solihull West Midlands
Age 43, weight 47 stone

"As one of the largest individuals in Britain, I was delighted to work with the Joerns team so that this specialist bariatric moving and handling solution could be developed to help similar patients. The Calibre hoist and sling delivered impressive levels of comfort and I felt secure, stable and safe throughout the trial transfers. I could sit for extended period on the sling in a chair without discomfort which eliminates the need for additional adjustments and felt no additional pressure or discomfort when in contact with sling material.



I would recommend Joerns products to all acute wards across the UK as they help deliver a robust, safe bariatric care solution for both caregiver and patient."