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**BED SIDE RAILS**

Setting up your equipment:

* Your equipment provider will properly set up your bedside rails.

Using your equipment:

* To lock side rails in the upright positions, simply pull up rails automatically lock into position.
* To lower side rails, locate the release pins at the head and foot ends of the rails, pull the pin until that side of the rail lowers and automatically drops into position.

Maintenance:

* Basic household cleaners can be used to keep your equipment clean and in proper working order.
* Check frequently for malfunctions and report any to your equipment provider immediately.

Safety issues:

* When raising or lowering side rails, make sure all extremities, both patient and caregiver, are clear of the rails.
* Most side rails are telescoping. When raising or lowering the head or foot portions of the hospital bed, keep hands and feet away from the telescoping area located in the middle of the bed rails.
* Side rails are not meant to be weight-beating and should not be used to assist in transferring a patient in or out of bed.
* Avoid gaps between mattress and bedside rails where bodily harm may occur. Proper mattress size and/or raised mattress edges may help prevent gaps.