Safe Patient Handling (SPH) Program
Awareness Training
Safe Patient Handling Program - What is it & Why?

1. **Why?** Required by state law for any acute care hospital.
2. **What is it?** Replacement of manual lifting and transferring of patients with powered patient transfer devices and/or lifting devices.
3. **Where?** Applies to all areas under the hospital’s license, both Inpatient and Outpatient.
4. **Who needs SPH training?** Both non-CHLA employees as well as CHLA employees.
5. **Two types of Training**
   1. **Hands-On Safe Patient Handling Training - Initially and Annually**
      1. Designated health care workers
      2. Supervisors of designated health care workers
   2. **Awareness Training - One Time**
      1. Employees present on patient care units who are not reasonably expected to perform patient handling activities. This may include: Physicians, Pharmacy, Lab, Social Work, EVS, Food Services, Financial Services, etc.
Safe Patient Handling
Awareness Training - What could you see & what should you do?

1. A patient may need handling or mobilization in a variety of situations. This list is not exhaustive, but some examples could be when a patient:
   1. Has slid down or to the one side of the bed or chair and needs to be repositioned in the bed or chair
   2. Needs to be mobilized from bed or chair to the bathroom
   3. Is asking to be moved
   4. Is requesting assistance to move
   5. Appears at risk for falling from a bed, chair or commode
   6. Is found on the floor

2. If any of the above occurs, the patient’s nurse or the charge nurse needs to be informed immediately so a properly trained health care professional can perform the needed patient handling activity.

3. If the situation is an emergency, use the code button in the patient room or patient care area. This would provide an immediate response by multiple health care providers.