

Technique 25 Applying a sling to a client in a chair

1. Instruct the client to lean forward in the chair
2. Slide the sling down the back of the chair with the handles facing the back of the chair
3. If client cannot lean forward or is in a moulded chair, slide one slide sheet down their back and slide the sling in behind that to reduce friction and any damage to the skin
4. Ensure the bottom of the sling reaches the base of the spine. Remove slide sheets once the sling is in place. Do not have the client sit on the sling as they will drop lower during hoisting, which can be frightening and unsafe. Some slings have a pocket on the lower back that allows the carer to place a flat hand in it and position the sling appropriately
5. Put the leg straps under each leg one at a time. If the client is unable to lift their leg, either use a slide sheet to help slide the strap under or kneel in front of the client and place their foot on your thigh – this should ease the strap application
6. Bring hoist to the client, adjusting hoist legs to widen around the chair, and attach the sling to the sling bar preferably at sternum (chest) level
7. Ensure the sling bar is held and watched continuously so that it does not swing into the client's face
8. Hoist the client just high enough to be off the chair and encourage them to move slightly – this will alert the carer to any discomfort and enhance the client's confidence in the hoist. Check sling loops again at this point to ensure they are all on safely
9. Complete the hoisting process.

FIGURE 4.36

Applying a sling to a client in a chair (Technique 25)

1. Ask the client to lean forward in the chair



2. Place the sling behind the client



3. Ensure the bottom of the sling reaches the base of the spine



4. Check that the sling is positioned correctly



5. Put the leg straps under each leg one at a time



6. Bring hoist to the client

