

## Patient With History of Falling Puts Paramedics At Elevated Risk of Injury....

*Binder Lift helps paramedics lift obese patient off bathroom floor*

**Location** Lancaster EMS, Lancaster County, SC

**Clinician Reporting** Tim Clemmer, Paramedic

**Patient Event** Obese patient with no reported injury in need of lift assistance

### > The Situation

Lancaster County paramedics responded to a 911 call with an address that was all too familiar to the responding paramedics. They had been paged to this address multiple times in the recent months to help an obese patient get up after falling from her chair. However this time she did not fall from her chair, today she was stuck on the bathroom floor and unable to get back on her feet. The two paramedics are not just faced with lifting a heavy person, but the small bathroom offers very limited space to work. To lift this patient to her feet in the past, one medic would have to get behind the patient, reach underneath her arms, grasp her hands, and lift primarily using their shoulders and back. The second medic would stand nearby hoping their partner would not become yet another statistic of medics who retired early due to a back injury. But this time it's a different scenario all together; this time, they had the Binder Lift.



### > The Binder Lift Difference

The Binder Lift's 360 degree handles allowed the medics to team lift while using the strength in their legs and not their backs. By performing a vertical lift, and keeping the patient close to their bodies, proper lifting practices were finally made possible. According to Tim Clemmer the Binder Lift prevents injuries in their department by having plenty of handles that allow crew members to pick up the patient evenly, no matter what the height difference is between the partners. "It also prevents the crew from having to pick the patient up under the arms. This protects the patient from possible injury during movement." After experiencing the new way of lifting with the Binder Lift, the paramedics at Lancaster County never again want to go back to their old methods of picking up patients.

**"I've received nothing but positive feedback on the use of the Binder Lift. Everyone agrees that it makes lifting the patient easier and safer."**

-- Tim Clemmer