



Supporting innovation across NHS Scotland

An innovative solution
for weighing immobile patients

Patient Transfer Scale (PTS)



Medication must be administered quickly for conditions like stroke and sepsis, and obtaining an accurate patient weight is critical for dosage. The PTS was designed to address the needs of patients admitted to hospital who are either too sick to stand on scales or are immobile.

Developed as an idea from a nurse working within NHS Lanarkshire, the PTS offers significant benefits:

- **Improves patient safety and saves time** - staff can weigh a patient quickly and accurately, and administer the correct medication dosage with confidence
- **Simple to use** - working in the same way as a traditional patient transfer method minimises training needs
- **Proven effective** - the scale is NAWI Class III Approved, Class I Medical Devices Directive Approved, and has been tested in over 30 hospitals, with multi-disciplinary teams using the product and providing feedback
- **Portable** - the scale can be taken to the patient by a single member of staff, minimising disruption for the patient and saving staff time.

“When working in the Emergency Department a child came in with injuries to his legs. Pain control was difficult as an accurate weight was required to support treatment. Patients with sepsis faced a similar issue, with rapid weighing needed to ensure an accurate dosage of antibiotics.

I had the idea of transforming a plastic transfer board into a set of scales which would transfer and weigh the patient simultaneously. I thought this would already be invented so did not take it further. However, later when working in practice development for stroke, where the ‘door to needle’ for thrombolysis is crucial, it became clear that weighing patients was still cumbersome and time consuming. I knew getting an accurate weight quickly could save lives, so with the support of SHIL I put my idea into action.

By moving and weighing the patient at the same time, the PTS improves patient outcomes, without increasing workload, offering significant benefit to both patient and staff.”

**Gillian Taylor,
Inventor, Patient Transfer Scale**



Translating ideas and innovations into viable products to
improve patient care



Invented by
Gillian Taylor

Developed alongside
Scottish Health Innovations Ltd

Manufactured by
Marsden

Marsden is the leading supplier of medical weighing equipment to NHS hospitals, and the distributor of the Patient Transfer Scale. All Marsden professional medical scales are Class III Approved. Marsden scales can be found in over 30 countries globally.

Scottish Health Innovations Ltd. (SHIL) work in partnership with NHS Scotland to identify, protect, develop and commercialise healthcare innovations to improve patient care.