



The Stairclimber People – Case Study

Stairclimbers helps improve transport safety and dignity for patients and crew

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Author: Angela May

Transporting patients has been made easier, safer and more dignified in Torbay and South Devon with the acquisition of innovative assistive technology.

Torbay Hospital League of Friends has bought two AAT C-Max stairclimbers for Torbay & South Devon NHS Trust's Patient Transport Services. These will result in an easier, less stressful and more comfortable journey for people who need help getting to and from hospital and healthcare sites for appointments and treatment.

The C-Max stairclimbers can each support a person weighing up to 230kg/ 36st, increasing the Services' current weight lifting capability by more than 30%. The Trust has seen a growing increase in its obesity-related inpatient admissions, with almost 70% of the local population overweight or obese⁽¹⁾.

The battery operated unit is kinetically powered to propel the patient smoothly up and down steps and stairs, including narrow and/or turned flights, and into the ambulance.

The in-vehicle CEN-approved rear impact securing system enables the patient to remain in the stairclimber during the journey, minimising transfers. Thus loading and strain on staff is significantly reduced, cutting work-related injuries and sickness and consequent costs.

The equipment also means patients are transported more safely, and with dignity.



Louis Nicholls, Patient Transport Officer at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, said: "The new stairclimbers will not only help our team to support people with limited mobility, but more importantly will allow us to be to offer a higher level of service for people across Torbay and South Devon which means the world to me."

"This type of equipment helps our organisation continue to provide quality care to the people of Torbay and South Devon."

Roy Tuttle, Chairman of the Torbay Hospital League of Friends, said: "We can all imagine how difficult it would be to transport a sick or injured person to and from hospital when flights of stairs are involved. We were delighted to be able to help Patient Transport Services to acquire two fantastic bariatric stairclimbers which we know will make the patients journey less stressful and, at the same time, make the job of everyone in patient transport a little bit easier."

Find out more about C-Max:

<https://www.aatgb.com/c-max-u2/>



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