

Sue Hain, Jim Forrest and Laura Lapadula

Sue Hain : Sue qualified as a physiotherapist in 1984. Her background experience has ranged from paediatric to geriatric care in hospital, community and educational settings.

Sue was previously employed as Manual Handling Adviser for NHS Fife before taking up her current role as Moving & Handling Adviser for Fife Council Social Work Service

Sue has presented at previous DLF conferences and is an active member of the Scottish Manual Handling Forum and National Back Exchange. She has recently completed a Certificate in Back Care Management at Loughborough University.



Jim Forrest: Jim qualified as a Registered Nurse in 1988. His background experience ranges from working in the area of special needs care in health settings to resource management in social care. Jim is presently employed as a Moving & Handling Adviser for Fife Council Social Work Service.

Jim has been involved in moving and handling training and risk management in community settings for the last 13 years. He has presented at the Scottish Manual Handling Forum and is presently working towards a Diploma in Back Care Management at Loughborough University.

Laura Lapadula: Laura qualified as a Registered Nurse in 1988. Her background experience has ranged from working as a nurse in hospital care settings and as a District Nurse in the community, to managing Home Care Services and a multi-disciplinary Day Centre within Social Work.

Laura has been employed as a Moving and Handling Consultant in Fife Council Social Work Service for the past 8 years. She has completed the Loughborough Post Graduate Diploma in Back Care Management, and has previously presented at the Scottish Manual Handling Forum.



Emergency Evacuation in the Community

In response to changes in Fire Law and particularly in response to a notice of closure given by the Fife Fire Service to one of the council's residential homes. Fife Council Social Work Service Moving & Handling Team were asked to provide guidance on the emergency evacuation of disabled people from care homes, schools and supported living accommodation.

After many meetings & discussions, with the residential home staff, health & safety, colleagues, fire officers and equipment manufacturers, emergency evacuation procedures were reviewed. It was apparent that in many emergency situations there may not be sufficient time or personnel to use standard transfer techniques, to move people onto the evacuation equipment, therefore we needed to provide staff with alternative techniques that could be used in such situations. The risks of training staff in the use of emergency evacuation equipment and these techniques had to be balanced against the requirement to provide competent staff to assist in an effective evacuation.

Through a process of risk assessment, literature review and peer consultation, the Moving & Handling Team identified and developed emergency evacuation procedures that may be used in emergency situations for transferring people on and off evacuation equipment, where standard practices are not an option. In addition to this we have also developed a training manual and procedures which incorporate a number of additional risk control measures, for the purposes of training, which have proven to be effective over the past year.

The workshop will include:

- (1) A brief presentation on the above
- (2) A practical session to demonstrate some of our emergency techniques: Bed/plinth to ski pad, chair/seated position to ski pad

(3) Question/answer time