### GeoSTATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

## Aging and Long-Term Support Administration

## Home and Community Services Division

*PO Box 45600, Olympia, WA 98504-5600*



**H14-022 – Procedure/UPDATE**

**April 10, 2014**

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| **TO:** | Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Directors  Home and Community Services (HCS) Division Regional Administrators  Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Regional Administrators |
| **FROM:** | Bea Rector, Director, Home and Community Services Division  Don Clintsman, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Developmental Disabilities Administration |
| **SUBJECT:** | Bed Rail Use for Home & Community-Based Settings – UPDATE of MB H13-018 |
| **Purpose:** | The purpose of this document is to notify case managers, social workers (CM/SW) and nurses of the **Therapy Assessment for Bed Rails or Side Rails DSHS Form** (13-906) and instructions for use. |
| **Background:** | MB H13-018 alerted case managers, social workers (CM/SW) and nurses to the potential dangers of bed rail use. Protocols were included related to bed rails/side rails for individuals receiving personal care services or for any future purchases by the Department of bed rails/side rails using state or federal funds. The protocols require an individualized assessment by an OT or PT when clients and/or caregivers request bed rails to improve mobility and/or transferring. |
| **What’s new, changed, or**  **Clarified** | [DSHS form 13-906](http://asd.dshs.wa.gov/FormsMan/FormPicker.aspx) is now available to be used when case managers, social workers, or nurses request an individualized assessment by an OT or PT to determine if the use of bed rails/side rails is appropriate. Therapists may be employed or contracted by agencies such as home health or outpatient therapy clinics  Once DSHS form 13-906 is completed and signed it will need to be sent to the Document Management System (DMS) so that it can be scanned into the client’s electronic file. |
| **ACTION:**  **RELATED REFERENCES:**  **ATTACHMENT(S):** | Bed Rails / Side Rails Form Instructions and Work Flow:   1. The Department of Social and Health Services/Area Agency on Aging (AAA) case manager initiates the request for a therapy assessment for bed/side rails by completing the [DSHS form 13-906](http://asd.dshs.wa.gov/FormsMan/FormPicker.aspx) with client demographics, date of request, case worker name and contact information, caregiving hours and number of caregivers, and authorizing prescriber (if known). 2. The rails assessment form is sent to the therapist for completion. 3. The therapist completes the form and makes a determination whether rails are recommended and, if so, what style of rails and their use. 4. Upon completion of the form, the therapist sends the form to the referring case manager and prescriber (whether rails are recommended or not recommended). 5. If rails are recommended and being purchased by the Health Care Authority, through a LTC waiver or with DDA prior approval, the therapist sends the form to the authorizing prescriber and DSHS/AAA case manager.   [Clinical Guidance For the Assessment and Implementation of Bed rails In Hospitals, Long Term Care Facilities, and Home Care Settings](https://www.ecri.org/Documents/Patient_Safety_Center/BedSafetyClinicalGuidance.pdf)  FDA Brochure [“A Guide to Bed Safety”](http://www.fda.gov/downloads/MedicalDevices/ProductsandMedicalProcedures/GeneralHospitalDevicesandSupplies/HospitalBeds/ucm125857.pdf)  Translated Brochures: <http://adsaweb.dshs.wa.gov/hcs/bedsafetytranslations.htm>  **MB H13-018:**    **DSHS Form 13-906:** |
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