



Project to Collect Medical Near-Miss/  
Adverse Event Information

Medical Safety  
Information

# Patient Falls While Using the Overbed Table for Support

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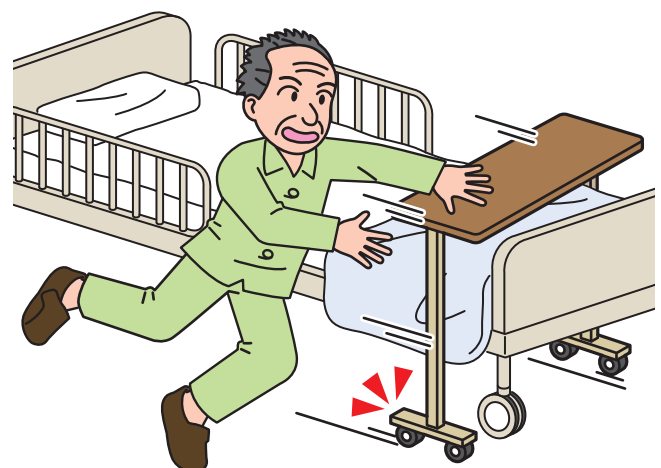


Seventeen cases have been reported in which a patient suffered a fall while using an overbed table for support when getting out of bed, etc. (information collection period: from January 1, 2014 to September 30, 2017). The information is compiled based on “Individual Theme Review” (p.123) in the 19th Quarterly Report.

**Cases have been reported in which an overbed table that a patient was using when getting out of bed, etc. moved, causing the patient to fall.**

Action by Patient Using the Overbed Table for Support	Number of Cases
Tried to get out of bed	6
Lost balance due to shakiness	5
Tried to get back into bed	2
Tried to put shoes on	1
Tried to open the curtain	1
Grasped it with both hands after changing position	1
Tried to use it as a support while walking	1

Image of case 1



## Patient Falls While Using the Overbed Table for Support

### Case 1

The nurse unlocked the overbed table so that the patient could go to the toilet. The patient placed their hand on the overbed table while getting out of bed. The overbed table moved, causing the patient to lose their balance and fall, resulting in a femur neck fracture.

### Case 2

The patient got out of bed to close the curtain. The patient thought that they could walk unaided, but became shaky and placed their hand on the overbed table. Although the overbed table was locked, it moved and the patient fell.

#### Preventive measures taken at the medical institutions in which the events occurred

- **The area around the bed will be tidied up to ensure patient safety.**
- **Patients will be specifically informed that placing their weight on the overbed table could make it move, causing them to lose their balance and fall.**

#### Complementary comment by the Comprehensive Evaluation Panel

- **Carry out a risk assessment of the area around the bed, as there are items other than overbed tables that can move.**

\* As part of the Project to Collect Medical Near-Miss/Adverse Event Information (a Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare grant project), this medical safety information was prepared based on the cases collected in the Project as well as on opinions of the "Comprehensive Evaluation Panel" to prevent the occurrence and recurrence of medical adverse events. See the Project website for details.

<http://www.med-safe.jp/>

\* Accuracy of information was ensured at the time of preparation but cannot be guaranteed in the future.

\* This information is intended neither to limit the discretion of healthcare providers nor to impose certain obligations or responsibilities on them.

