

CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL

Physical Therapy Services

Equipment Procedure #38

Re: Helmets

Date: May 30, 2002

Revised: October 19, 2008

Description:

Helmets vary according to individual needs and size. They are of soft, flexible material. Ventilation is present.

Purpose:

- To reduce the risk of injury to the head and face area for those with a history of frequent falls.

Indications:

- As prescribed by the M.D., often used for those at risk for falls especially due to seizures.

Procedure:

- The Physician, in consultation with Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Nursing as appropriate should prescribe the correct type of helmet.
- The circumference of the head should be measured at eyebrow level and ordered according to the appropriate sizing chart for the specific type of helmet.
- The helmet should be worn with the strap attached as prescribed by the M.D. – usually whenever the patient is standing/walking.
- Nursing Staff should check the condition of the helmet daily, with any problems reported to the Physical Therapist for resolution.

Care:

- Helmet should be washed with a mild soap and water solution once weekly or more often as needed.