



**Service Priorities and Programmes**  
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**From good to great: Journey of tool development to minimize hazard in manual handling procedure**

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**Introduction**

Reducing the number of work injury related to manual handling related process is one of the main issue in occupational safety and health policy in Hospital Authority. Apart from improving personal skills in manual handling, Occupational Safety and Health Ergonomic team in Kwong Wah Hospital has fabricated different tools in minimizing the potential hazard in manual handling procedures. This time the specially designed tool- 40L sharp box transferring aids has been chosen for illustrating the beneficial effect and importance of using appropriate tools.

**Objectives**

To compare the posture loading difference between the conventional transferring method with the new method by using specially designed tool

**Methodology**

Rapid Upper Limb Assessment (RULA) has been used to measure the posture loading difference before and after the change. It is a screening tool that assesses biomechanical and postural loading on the whole body with particular attention to the neck, trunk and upper limbs. The final score is ranging from 1 to 7. The higher the score, the higher the risk of injury to the operator would be due to physical loading. The work process of targeting tasks (transferring the loaded 40L sharp box from one place to another) was videotaped. Independent assessor will assess the postural loading score before and after using new tools by RULA.

**Result**

For the original 40L sharp box transfer method, the RULA final score is 4 which means the further investigation may be required. After using the specially designed tool, the RULA final score moves down to 1 which means the posture is acceptable.