



# Moving and Handling Case Study

**The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery working with Chiltern Invadex to improve patient care**

**T**he National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery (NHNN, Queen Square, London) is part of the University College London Hospitals Trust and is a leading National Centre for the treatment of Neurological Illnesses.

A Neurorehabilitation Unit (NRU) was established more than 100 years ago at Finchley, and transferred to new accommodation in the Queen Mary Wing of the NHNN in August 1999. The NRU and Therapy Departments at NHNN form part of the Directorate of Musculoskeletal and Rehabilitation Services, providing a comprehensive range of outpatient and inpatient

Therapy Services for individuals with a Neurological disability.

The nature of disability on the NRU varies, but in the majority of cases individuals are wheelchair dependent or at least require an aid, or assistance to enable them to walk. Many also require assistance to transfer from one place to another, for example, from a bed to a chair.

As part of the programme to upgrade and refurbish the facilities the UCLH Trust Planning Directorate commissioned the installation of the Wispa range of Ceiling Mounted Hoists from Chiltern



*The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery (NHNN) at Queen Square, London.*

Invadex. This followed the successful installation of this system at another site in North London.





*Wispa Ceiling Mounted Hoist helps aid the showering, bathing and toileting task*



*The Wispa is carefully positioned in the showering area*

*“We had to overcome two major challenges”*

The Chiltern Invadex Installation Team were presented with two major challenges – the height of the ceiling in the Albany Wing and the structure of the building.

Paul Brain Installation and Service Manager explains “the ceiling track on which the hoist runs needed to be secured to the structure of the building. This meant we had to manufacture a special system to suspend the track at the correct level”.

Once this was achieved a lowered ceiling was put in place and “the tiled ceiling provided a neat finish to the installation”. Because of the complexity of this task the hoist tracking systems were installed over a number of weeks with much of the cutting being carried out on site by three or sometimes four engineers.

*“The installation was tailored to suit the building design, carer and patient requirements”*





*“The motorised track spans over 6 metres”*

The hoists run on an ‘XY’ tracking system. That is, two pieces of track fixed to the ceiling, with an additional motorised travelling track to allow complete room coverage. The track itself spans over six metres and is powered by the mains electricity supply.

In total twenty seven Wispa WLTB ceiling mounted hoists were installed and a range of Wispa slings provided. The operation of the hoists is

*“Operation of the hoist is extremely straightforward”*

extremely straightforward. Operators use a handset, which has six directional buttons. When a button is pressed the hoist travels along the track in the specified direction. The handset is air operated and the hoist itself is battery powered and is recharged automatically when it is returned to the end of the track after use.



*The Wispa Ceiling Mounted Hoist positioned over a bed*

*“Servicing is taken care of by Chiltern Invadex”*

To meet LOLER (Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998) the hoists are load tested and inspected every six months and also serviced annually by Chiltern Invadex engineers.

The benefit of this hoist system stretches further than the ease of use. Manual Handling Regulations stipulate that safe (for both patient and staff) handling techniques must be employed. The Wispa Hoist System ensures that care staff do not put themselves at risk, while ensuring the safety and comfort of patients.

As a part of the installation package Chiltern Invadex provided free training to care staff in the correct use of the equipment, including patient handling slings and safe handling techniques.



*Two Wispa Ceiling Mounted Hoists provide complete room coverage on the hospital ward*

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