

The Chiltern Invadex range of Wispa slings has been carefully assessed and tested to be compatible with the Wispa range of hoists. It has been developed utilising specialist materials combined with the knowledge of healthcare professionals, end users and a team of expert machinists.

Although the use of Wispa slings is recommended, user safety, comfort and personal choice is paramount when selecting appropriate equipment. Chiltern Invadex acknowledge that users often require the use of a sling by another manufacturer or require the use of a Wispa sling on another manufacturers hoist, and offer the following guidance to ensure the safety of all parties involved in the lifting process.

### Third Party Sling Selection Guidance

When selecting a sling it is important to ensure that it has been adequately designed and tested. Slings are classed as a Medical Device and to ensure that a sling has been appropriately tested and risk assessed, all slings are required to carry the CE mark.



In addition, the following information must be provided;

- A detailed user guide, including details of required inspections.
- The maximum permitted load of the sling must be shown on the sling label – where this differs from the maximum load of the hoist the lower of the two must be adhered to.
- A unique reference should be shown on the sling label.

If the above information and labelling are not present, Chiltern Invadex would strongly advise against selection of the sling.

### Connection Points

The Chiltern Invadex range of hoists utilise spreader bars with a hook design on which a sling with loops may be connected. The vast majority of looped slings will be compatible with the hooked spreader bar design, however, Chiltern Invadex would strongly advise that a documented assessment of risk is undertaken to ensure that the equipment is safe in the configuration in which it will be used. This should take into consideration the method of attachment and the length of the sling straps; are the sling loops able to make a secure attachment to the spreader bar, can they inadvertently detach from the spreader bar hooks; are the straps sufficient to prevent collision between the user and the spreader bar/hoist case. NB this risk assessment can be carried out in conjunction with, however, does not replace the sling assessment undertaken by the healthcare professional.

The above also applies when using a Wispa sling on another manufacturers hoist.

No attempt should be made to use slings with a clip design. Similarly, Wispa slings can be manufactured with clips as an alternative to loops, as such no attempt should be made to attach looped Wispa slings to a clip design spreader bar.

Ultimately, the final selection of equipment to be used will remain the responsibility of the professional who has carried out the risk assessment and determined that the combination is safe and appropriate for the patient, carer, environment and the task to be performed.

Chiltern Invadex are able to undertake an assessment of the connection points, however cannot accept responsibility for the incorrect fitting of slings, misuse of slings or any incident resulting from incorrect assessment by a third party.

If there is any doubt, the sling should not be used until the company has been contacted for advice.

Under no circumstances should the Wispa spreader bar be replaced to enable the attachment of a third party sling.

