The simplicity of the HMH Sked® design makes it most versatile in hospitals and contaminated areas. For use in hospitals it is stored in flat bags (4 per bag) that hang on a wall, most often in the back of a closet or an out of the way but strategically located area. When needed you simply pull down on the cord that is attached to the zippers to open the bag. Pull out on one HMH Sked at a time to remove them from the bag. Unbuckle all straps and it is ready for use.

1. One or two persons will roll the patient and his/her bedding to one side of the hospital bed while another person holds the HMH Sked ready to place it onto the bed.

2. The HMH Sked is placed onto the patient’s bed and moved against the patient. Be sure the straps are placed next to the patient.

3. Gently roll the patient onto the HMH Sked.

4. Using the bedding, slide the patient to the center of the HMH Sked. Fasten and adjust all straps. This will cocoon the patient and provide handles to lower the patient to the floor, preferably off from the end of the bed after the bed end has been removed. Gently lower the patient to the floor.
5. Using the attached straps, slide the patient out to the hallway and to the stair well.

6. The lowering procedure is simple. One person at the foot end will guide the HMH Sked stretcher over the top steps and down to the first landing. At the same time two persons will hold the HMH Sked back while preventing it from sliding too fast. This method allows total control while negotiating stairways.

Caution: DO NOT USE DOOR KNOBS OR HAND RAILS FOR ANCHORS TO LOWER A PATIENT DOWN STAIRWAYS WITH ROPES OR WEBBING AS DOOR KNOBS CAN BREAK OR HAVE THE ATTACHMENT SLIP OFF AND HAND RAILS ARE OFTEN NOT PROPERLY SECURED TO THE WALLS WHICH MAKES THEM BOTH EXTREMELY DANGEROUS ANCHOR OPTIONS. A PROPER ROPE SYSTEM WITH FAIL-SAFE ANCHORS SHOULD BE USED FOR EXTREMELY LARGE PATIENTS. PROPER TRAINING REQUIRED. Instructions for that option are included in the Bariatric Sked instructions.

7. At each landing the person guiding the foot end will pull it to the side and allow the HMH Sked to pass down the last steps at an angle. This prevents the patient’s head from being pulled upward into an uncomfortable position. When the HMH Sked is flat onto the landing it is pulled around and lined up to negotiate the next set of stairs, Repeat steps 6 and 7 until you arrive at the first floor. At that point the patient is guided across the floor to a doorway and out of the building.

Once out of the building the patient can be placed into an area for ambulance transport away from the building. If there aren't as many HMH Skeds as patients the patient can remain in his/her bedding in a safe area awaiting transport while the Sked is pulled from under him and re-used in the same manner.