

MASS CASUALTY HAZ-MAT/HOSPITAL (HMH) SKED® STRETCHER

ASSEMBLING PALLETIZED HMH SKEDS WITHOUT STRAPS ATTACHED



1. Lace the ends of the red tow strap with plastic handles through the slots at the head end. Start downward, then upward through the second slot.



2. Pass the end of the strap through the second loop located by the first slot and pull it tight.



3. Pass the end of the strap downward through the third slot.



4. Pull the end of the strap up through the round hole far enough to form a loop in the end. It is necessary to bend the head end of the HMH Sked® to get enough length in the strap to form a loop.



5. Separate the two halves of a black cross strap.

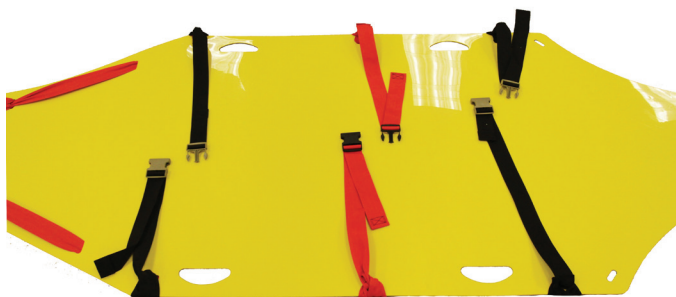


6. On each side of the HMH Sked® pass the loop end of the black strap through the red strap loop and through the adjacent slot in the HMH Sked®. Pull it through far enough to open the end loop and pass the buckle end of the strap through. This will form a girth hitch through the red strap end and the slot.

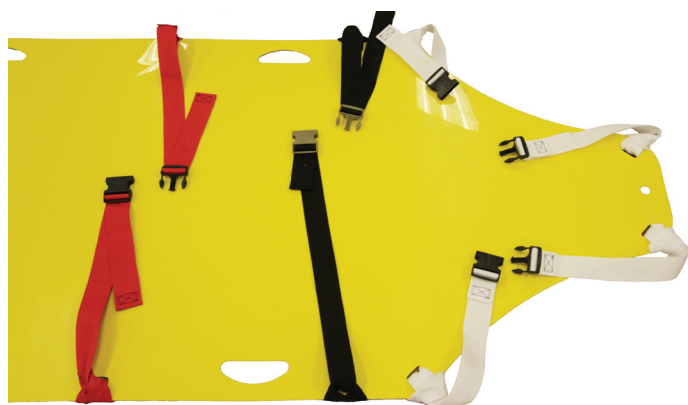


7. Pull the red strap loop tight and remove all slack. This will allow the head end of the HMH Sked® to lay flat.

8. Repeat steps 1 to 7 on opposite side.



9. Do the same with the remaining two cross straps. The only difference is there is no tow strap to deal with on the center and lower cross straps.



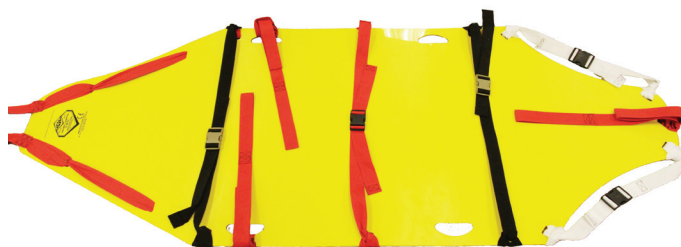
10. Separate the two halves of each white foot end strap and attach them through the angled slots at the corners of the foot end of the HMH Sked®, using a girth hitch.



11. Fasten the ends of all buckle straps so they lay flat and do not pull upward on the edges of the HMH Sked®. The HMH Sked® must lie flat prior to patient packaging.



12. Attach the three extra slings provided with each HMH Sked®. They are used for easier handling when on stairways, steep terrain or to place the HMH Sked® onto a decontamination rack. They are attached by folding the sling at the line between the words FOLD | HERE on each sling. Insert the folded end through the cut-in hand holds of the HMH Sked®. Open a loop at the folded end. Insert the two sewn ends through the loop to form a girth hitch and pull it tight.



13. Finished HMH Sked® configuration and ready to deploy.

USE OF THE HMM SKED®

Prior to entering the Hot zone attach a rope to the two loops of the tow strap with a carabiner.

Pull on both white foot straps to raise the foot end of the HMM Sked about 12-14 inches. On level surfaces, this is enough to prevent the patient from sliding downward and possibly off from the HMM Sked®.

Upon reaching the patient, place the HMM Sked next to him. Unbuckle the center and upper cross straps.

Roll the patient into the center of the HMM Sked and FASTEN the ends of the cross straps and adjust the straps to pull the sides of the HMM Sked up around the patient. Using a hand or transmitted voice signal have 1 or 2 people in the decon area pull on the rope and drag the HMM Sked with patient to decon.

Note:

A. Attaching a rope to the foot end of the HMM Sked allows a person in a level A suit to pull the empty HMM Sked back to the hot zone. This enables other level A rescuers to package patients only and will "speed up" the operation considerably. The rope can be attached with a carabiner to the hole in the center at the foot end.

B. It is better to place a clean HMM Sked next to the one with a patient and roll the patient from the "shuttle" Sked to the clean one. This eliminates the need to disconnect and reconnect the ropes. It also prevents abrading the under side of all HMM Skeds making decon easier and more complete.



If a rescuer goes down from heat exhaustion or any other reason his partner will place an HMM Sked® in front of him, roll him on using his air tank as a handle. Fasten the straps around him and have him hauled out. This can usually be done in less time than it takes for the two standby level A rescuers to be zipped up and duct taped to enter the hot zone.



Note: The center of the red towing strap has two loops for attaching a rope using a carabiner. In the center is a tubular plastic handle, which allows a rescuer to grip it comfortably and drag the HMM Sked®.



The HMM Skeds can be pre-rigged with the straps and rolled up. They can be rolled, one inside the other, with as many as four per roll in about a fourteen inch diameter. A rapid deployment bag is available to store them in. It has two pockets to store the extra slings and other parts. This allows the stretchers to be stored inside a compartment on a fire or rescue vehicle. It also makes it possible for immediate use without assembling or waiting for the pallets to be delivered.



Decontamination

The HMM Sked® is decontaminated the same way any other equipment is done. The straps are removed and destroyed. If the stretcher has deep scratches on the under side from dragging over extremely rough areas it should be pressure washed after being decontaminated. When the HMM Sked® is dry it can be stored on pallets (flat) or rolled up with clean or new straps ready for the next use. If you have any questions on the HMM Sked® or any other Skedco product contact Skedco direct.



Weight: 11 pounds (With Straps Attached)

Dimension: 9 inch diameter x 36 inch length (Rolled up)
3 feet x 8 feet (laid out flat)

Materials: Medium density E-Z glide non-absorbing polyethylene plastic. 0.105 inch thick

Product Number: SK-250

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.

HMH SKED IN HOSPITAL AND OTHER BUILDING EVACUATION



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.

