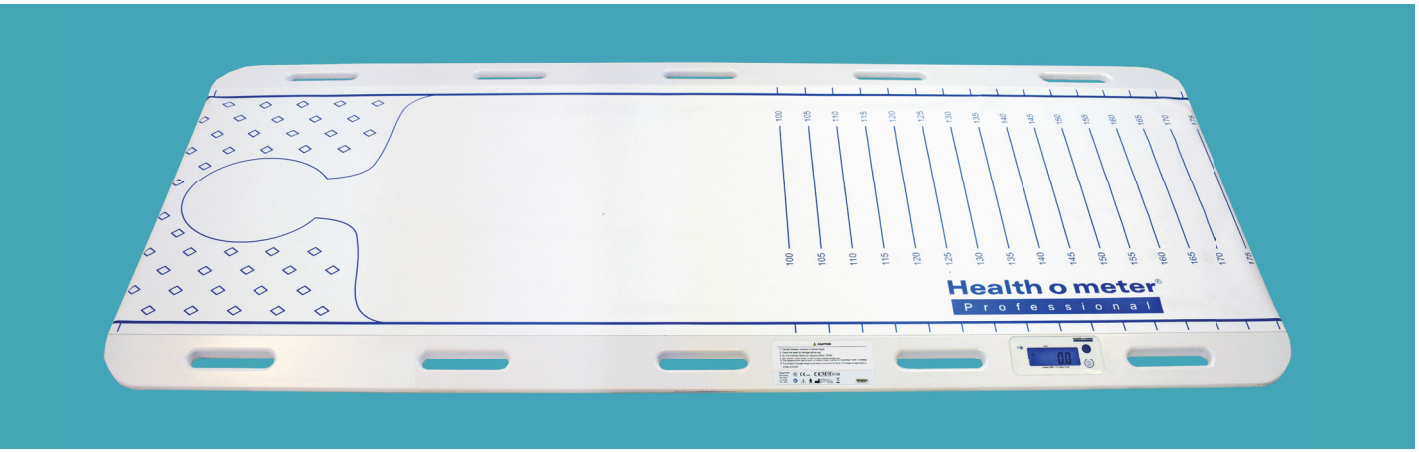
Health o meter®

Professional




# PATIENT TRANSFER SCALE

A Case Study in Efficiency and Effectiveness

## How an innovative and novel medical scale changed the way two hospitals manage their stroke patients and protocol

# PROBLEM

Currently, hospitals are challenged to quickly and accurately measure a stroke patient's weight, as the patient is often immobile and the weight is used to dose life-saving medication. Weighing beds are often used in these cases to weigh a patient prior to a CT Scan but present multiple problems.

**There are many possible issues with using weighing beds including:**

- **Availability**
- **Accuracy**
- **Not Zeroed**
- **Additional Transfers**

# SOLUTION

The Patient Transfer Scale (PTS) was designed to weigh immobile patients faster and more easily than current solutions. Two Centura Health Hospitals in Colorado, Penrose Hospital and St. Francis, introduced the PTS to help manage their stroke patients. This case study focuses on how these facilities incorporated the PTS into their stroke protocol and the effects it had on clinical outcomes, and clinician and patient safety.

Previously at the Centura Hospitals, stroke alert patients were moved from EMS stretcher to an ER bed to measure the patient's weight and then transported to the CT suite. With the introduction of the PTS, that protocol changed by eliminating one of the patient transfers. The patient is now moved directly from the EMS stretcher to the CT Scan machine, measuring the weight during the transfer.

> **Using the PTS is a very simple process. Turn it on and move the patient on it and the weight comes up.**
> *ER Nurse, Penrose Hospital*

# RESULTS

To better understand how well the PTS performed and was received, twelve clinicians who used the product on a daily basis were asked to provide feedback. The following summarizes their response.

## TRANSFERS

**100%**

**of clinicians felt it was easier to obtain a weight because of fewer transfers**

## EASE OF USE

**100%**

**of clinicians found the process to be very simple**

## PATIENT SAFETY

**100%**

**of clinicians believed the PTS improved patient safety**

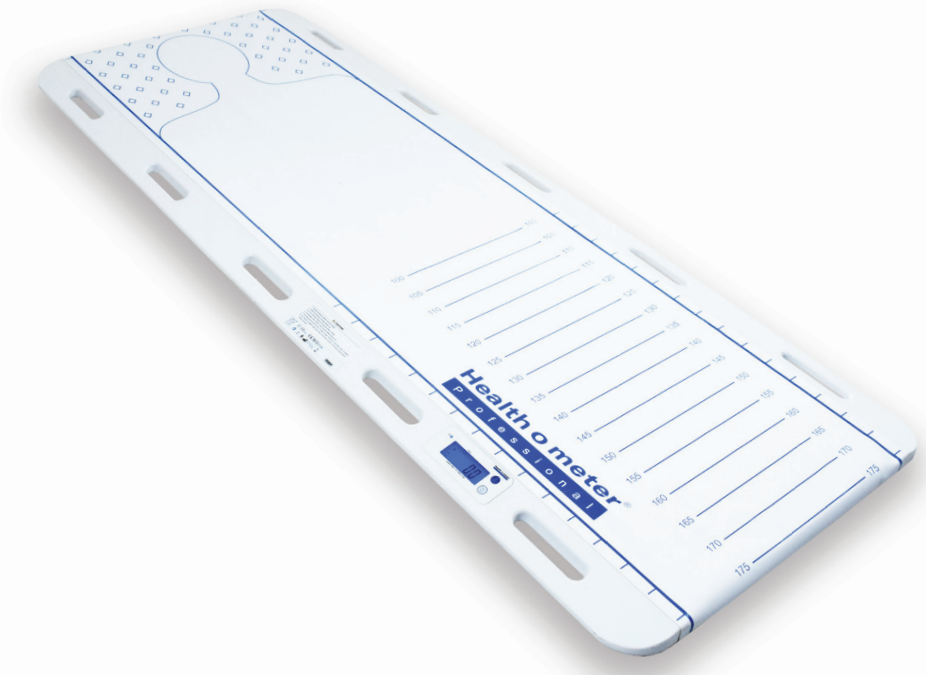
## STAFF SAFETY

**100%**

**of clinicians recognized that the PTS improved staff safety**

# CONCLUSION

Once implemented in the facility, the PTS was well received by staff members, improved safety, streamlined the stroke alert process and achieved an accurate patient weight in a time sensitive emergency situation. The PTS improved patient care and outcomes, without compromise and has potential benefits for emergency, stroke, critical care, pediatric or any immobile patient.




> **The PTS made the measuring of weight for stroke patients easier by decreasing the number of transfers, especially over large ER beds**
>
> *Stoke Specialist, Penrose Hospital*