

## **Making a case for safe patient handling equipment – perspectives from the caregiver and the patient**

Faculty:

Kermit G Davis

This symposium will evaluate the status of the research in supporting the use of patient handling equipment to reduce the biomechanical loading on the caregiver and protect the patient. While there are many types of safe patient handling equipment, the number of studies that evaluate any biomechanical loading varies with respect to the finding effectiveness for the different types of equipment (this sentence is very weird to me). The first presentation will provide a detailed exploration of the existing studies and the results for the different safe patient-handling equipment types. The second presentation will provide the results of a study that evaluated spine loading for multiple repositioning and lateral transfer patient handling devices. The final presentation will show how patient migration in bed is a key component to safe patient handling as it is one of the root causes of the need to reposition patients. These presentations will provide a comprehensive look at the current science for supporting certain types of patient-handling equipment for protecting healthcare providers when moving patients.

### **About Our Speaker:**

Kermit G Davis

Dr Kermit Davis is a Professor at the University of Cincinnati, where he is the graduate programme director of the Environmental and Occupational Hygiene and Occupational Safety and Ergonomics programmes at the University of Cincinnati. Dr Davis is a past-President of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) and a Fellow of HFES (2013) and the American Industrial Hygiene Association (2019). His research has concentrated on reducing the ergonomic stressors of healthcare workers and patients in healthcare settings (e.g., hospitals, long-term care facilities, and home healthcare). In the last 3 years, his research has focused on virtual offices in the United States and the United Kingdom.