

## General Guidelines for the Prescriber

In prescribing the way in which a person should be restrained while travelling in a motor vehicle, the following should be observed:

- The first consideration for restraining a person should be through the use of restraints that comply with the AS/NZS 1745 and with the relevant standards and regulations.
- The prescriber should become familiar with all aspects of the person's physical and psychological status and lifestyle.
- The prescriber should ensure that the installation and use of the restraint option is demonstrated to the carer/s. This should include advice that:
  - The restraint or recommended method of transporting the person should not be changed without further advice being sought from the prescriber.
  - The restraint and the installation of the restraint should be maintained in good order.
  - The Carer/s should check that the restraint is fastened and correctly adjusted for each person on each journey.
- A record should be kept of recommendations and action. Records should be maintained and updated when developing options for the restraint. This serves several purposes, including:
  - Providing evidence that due care was taken in making recommendation for the person's restraint and that every endeavour was made to ensure that the best available protection was recommended.
  - As a record of a solution to the problem in transporting a person with special needs.
- The Carer/s of the person for whom the option is necessary, should be advised that it must only be used to transport the person for whom it was recommended.
- The Carer/s should follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation and use.

### What else can be done?

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| Option A | Place the person in an approved motor vehicle occupant restraint.  |
| Option B | Increase supervision.  |
| Option C | Employ behavioural modification strategies.  |
| Option D | Minimise length of journeys.   |
| Option E | Place a clear sleeve over the seat belt buckle, which does not restrict Carer's view of the release device.  |
| Option F | Use an approved restraint with the buckle located out of reach of the person and close to the anchorage point.   |
| Option G | For children over 32kg, use an adult harness with an extra long lap belt (not a lengthened lap belt), installed with the buckle located out of reach of the child. |
| Option H | Use a load-bearing vest with the release device located out of reach of the person.  |

The following information is taken from:

**Australian / New Zealand Standard AS/NZ 4370:1996**