

Crutch Shortage Survey November 2021

Original Question(s):

- Are you experiencing challenges with obtaining crutches/walkers for your patients due to supply shortages and if so, what actions you have/are taking to mitigate this shortage.
- Do you accept donated crutches/walkers?
- What process are you using to clean them before re-issuing?
- Are you replacing the pads first?
- What process are you using to inspect, document, insure good condition before re-issuing them?
- Do you have the families sign any documentation acknowledging that the items has been previously used? Has this been vetted with your legal department?

ORG A

At this time we are asking for crutch donations at our administrative tower. This is a tower where support staff work (IS&T, research, foundation, etc.). It has about 2000 employees. To date, we have only asked this group of employees to donate crutches. We have received about 10 pair. We have ordered new crutch tips, underarm and hand pads to replace those on the used crutches.

Cleaning includes replacing rubber parts, wiping them down with AF3 wipes and then putting them in a room with our UV cleaner (Tru-D).

We are not having parents sign anything.

If we do not get orders soon, we will have to open this donation up to the staff at the hospitals.

We have not yet moved to planning for community donations.

ORG B

Our materials management have been working with other vendors to get supplies and we have increased our PAR level but I am so curious what you hear with this email. We are close to running out of youth size walkers.

We do have a loaner agreement for used equipment. Legal did work with our department to develop the agreement and the guideline states that one of the reasons is waiting for appropriate DME. We have not pulled from that supply yet but it is a consideration. We clean the equipment per our infection control policy with the hospital grade sanitizer. We have a rehab engineer on site who would inspect the equipment prior to distribution.

ORG C

We launched our community wide/organization wide “Donate your used crutches to Children’s” Campaign last week.

I have attached the following documents for anyone interested:

- Program Process
- Inspect/Clean Process

- Acknowledgement of donation
- Acknowledgement of use of donated equipment