

## **Caring for a Resident with Total Hip Replacement**

A resident may need a total hip replacement due to arthritis or other illness or injury. A resident who has had this surgery must not cross his legs or move them in certain directions because this could cause dislocation. An abduction pillow will be placed between the resident's legs to keep the leg that has had the operation in the proper position. The pillow will remain in place when you turn the resident. A resident who has had a total hip replacement should only be turned on his back or on the side that has not been operated on.

A resident who has had a total hip replacement will not be able to bear any weight on the operative leg immediately after the surgery. Over time, he will be able to bear partial weight on the leg. A special reclining wheelchair with elevated legs will be used to move the resident. The resident must not cross his legs or bend over after the surgery.