

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

Voluntary Consent and Liability Form for Sit to Stand Box Construction

This voluntary consent and liability form is for individuals who choose to download the Sit to Stand Box (STS) instructions provided by the University of Hartford (the “University”).

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Name of Organization: The University of Hartford

Introduction.

I am Dr. Sandra Saaverdra I work for the University of Hartford and the STS box is based on a design that I created. The instructions for the project were created by Jason Hubeny.

An STS box is a postural support device for children to stand up independently and put weight through both of their legs. The STS box gives the child the ability to use both hands while safely maintaining a standing position. It allows them to practice transitional movements from a sitting position to a standing position in a safe and fun environment. Creation of the device involves a modest list of materials found at local general and hardware stores.

Background.

Non-ambulatory children have an increased incidence of secondary muscle and bone impairments. Deficits in trunk control are correlated to GMFCS level, gross motor plateaus, and ability to practice upright control and transitions. Traditional positioning devices restrict freedom of movement. Activity and practice with upright control is needed for bone and muscle health, motor learning, and cognitive development. A device like the STS Box can promote practice of upright control, weight bearing, weight shifting, and transitions from sit to stand for non-ambulatory children.

Risks.

Participation in or construction of the STS Box carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injury. The specific risks vary from person to person, but the risks range from: minor injuries such as scratches, bruises, and sprains; major injuries such as joint or bone injuries; to catastrophic injuries such as paralysis and death.

STS boxes are a cost effective and functional design for children with GMFCS levels III-V. The designs from this project require further research to better prescribe individual design elements including adaptations to maximize function and play, long term study of impact of positioning with STS boxes on musculoskeletal development and secondary impairments, study of impact on quality of life including communication, and participation in home and school.

Voluntary Consent.

Your decisions to download the STS Box instructions and construct the device are entirely voluntary. By downloading the instructions, you assume all risk associated with construction and use of the STS Box. You understand that it is your responsibility to consult a physician prior to and regarding use of the STS Box. You further understand and agree that none of the information provided regarding the STS Box is medical advice. You understand and agree that my use of the provided information is at my own risk.

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Assumption of Liability.

The STS Box instructions should only be used if downloaded directly from the University of Hartford. In return for being permitted to download the STS Box instruction, you, for yourself and your heirs or assigns, agree to hold harmless The University, and its agents and employees from any cost, damage, injury, or any other claim resulting from any instruction provided regarding construction or use of the STS Box. You further agree to release, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the University, and its directors, officers, employees, and agents from and against any from any loss, cost, damage, injury, and/or any other claim resulting from use or construction of the STS Box.

Acknowledgment of Understanding.

I have read this Voluntary Consent and Liability Form, fully understand its terms, and understand that I am giving up substantial rights, including my right to sue. I confirm that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily, and intend my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.