USING RESTRAINT STRAPS

> ⚠️ **WARNING**
>
> Always use all restraint straps to secure the patient on the cot. An unrestrained patient may fall from the cot and be injured.

Always secure the patient on the cot with all of the restraint straps.

To attach the restraint strap to the cot:
1. Wrap the restraint strap around the cot frame as shown in Figure 59.
2. Push the restraint strap buckle through the loop as shown in Figure 60.
3. Pull the buckle through the loop to secure the restraint strap to the cot as shown in Figure 61.

Figure 59: Wrap strap around cot   **Figure 60: Push buckle through loop**   **Figure 61: Pull strap to tighten**

4. Repeat steps 1-3 until all restraint straps are securely attached to the cot in the required attachment locations as shown in Figure 62.

Buckle the restraints across the patient's chest/shoulders, waist and legs. Note the attachment locations in Figure 59.

Keep the restraint straps buckled (as shown in Figure 62) when the cot is not being used with a patient to avoid damage to the buckles and straps.
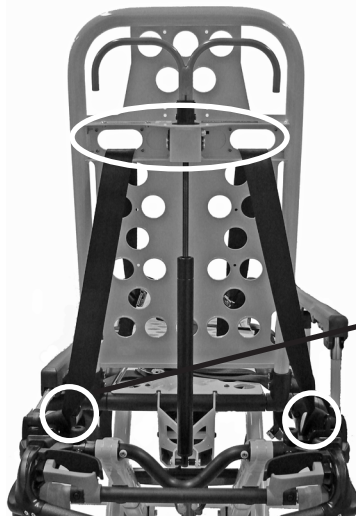
Figure 62: Restraint Strap Locations
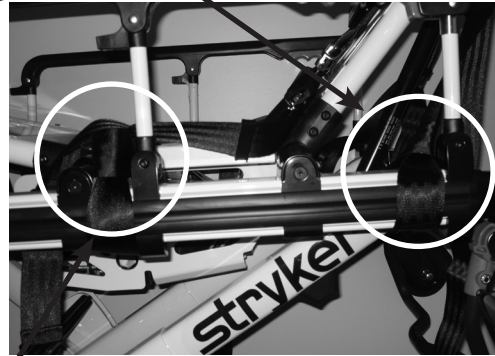
USING RESTRAINT STRAPS (CONTINUED)

When attaching the restraint straps to the cot, the attachment points should provide both strong anchorage and proper restraint position while not interfering with equipment and accessories.

(Back View)

⚠️ **WARNING**

Do not attach restraints to the base tubes, cross tubes, or fowler skin. Improper restraint attachment could result in damage to the cot further resulting in injury to the patient or operator.

Shoulder/Chest Restraint Straps
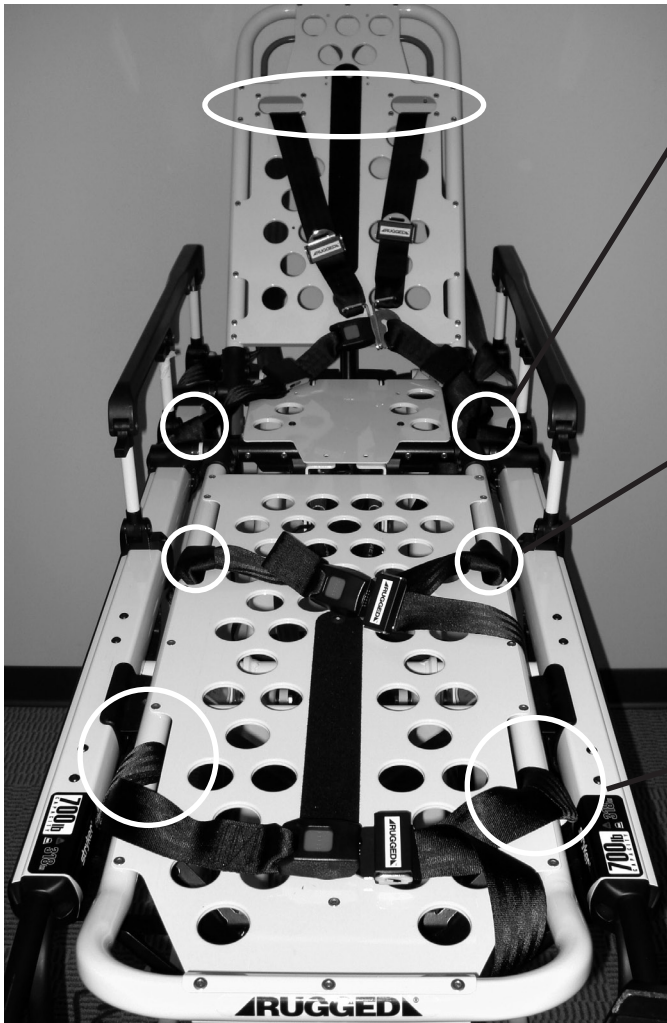

Knee Restraint Straps

Foot Restraint Straps

Figure 63: All Straps (Front View)

USING RESTRAINT STRAPS (CONTINUED)

⚠️ **CAUTION**

Ensure that the restraints are not entangled in the base frame when raising and lowering the cot.

When the cot is put into service, open the restraints and place them at either side of the cot until the patient is positioned on the cot mattress. Lengthen the restraints, buckle them around the patient and shorten them until the required tightness is achieved.

- **To open the restraint**, press the red button (A) on the front of the buckle "receiver". This releases the buckle latch plate (B) which can then be pulled out of the receiver (Figure 64a).
- **To close the restraint**, push the latch plate into the receiver until a "click" is heard. When fastening the chest restraint ensure that the latch plate passes through both links (C) on the shoulder strap (Figure 64a).
- **To lengthen the restraint**, grasp the buckle latch plate, turn it at an angle to the webbing, then pull it out (Figure 64b). A hemmed tab at the end of the webbing prevents the latch plate from coming off of the strap.
- **To shorten the restraint**, grasp the hemmed tab and pull the webbing back through the latch plate until the required tightness is achieved (Figure 64c).
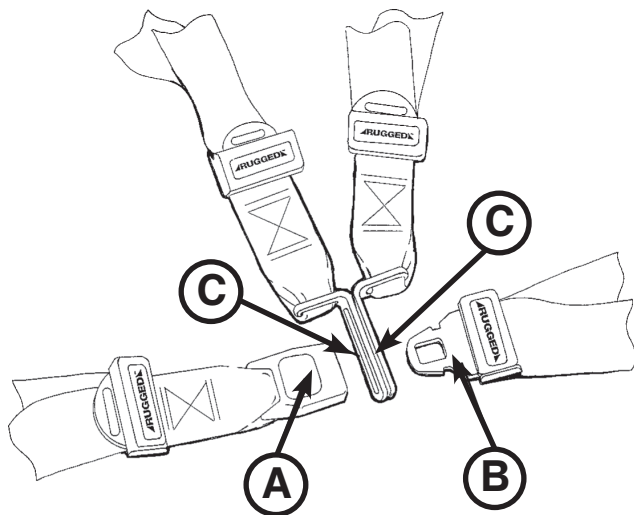
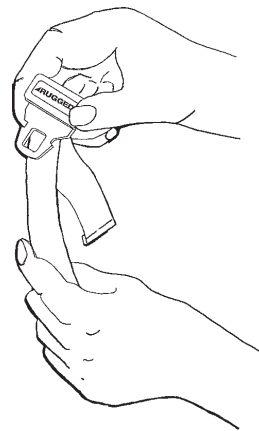**Figure 64a: Buckling the Safety Restraints**

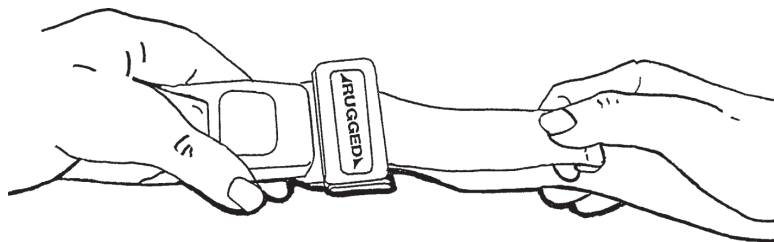**Figure 64b: Lengthening the Safety Restraint**

Figure 64c: Shortening the Safety Restraint

Whenever a restraint is buckled on a patient, verify that the latch plate is fully engaged and any extra webbing is not tangled in the cot or hanging loose.

Inspect the restraints **at least** once a month (more frequently if used heavily). Inspection should include checking for a bent or broken receiver or latch plate, torn or frayed webbing, etc. Any restraint showing wear or not operating properly **must** be replaced immediately.