

Symptoms

- ✓ Pain is worst in the back, buttocks, upper thigh, or groin but may radiate to the legs.
- ✓ Pain may be constant or intermittent.
- ✓ Pain is worse when sitting or bending forward.
- ✓ Pain may be eased by bending backwards.
Walking and standing are better than sitting.

Positions and Exercises

The following rest positions can be used at home to rest your back and reduce pain. Your health care provider will check the boxes next to the positions and exercises recommended for your condition.



☐ Supine Lie:

- Lie on back, knees and head resting on pillows.

Rest for ____ minutes every ____ hour(s).



☐ Prone Lie:

- Lie on stomach. Use three pillows to support hips.

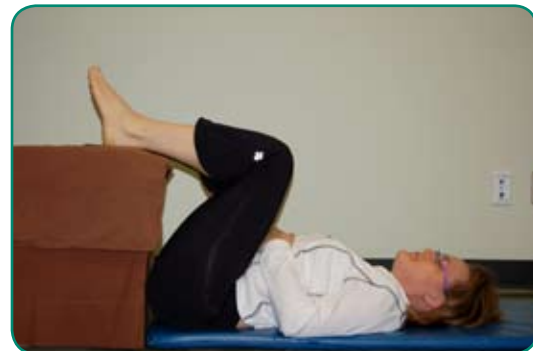
Rest for ____ minutes every ____ hour(s).



☐ Knees to Chest:

- Lie on back with knees bent and feet flat on the floor
- Slowly, bring knees up towards chest. Bringing the legs up one at a time makes it easier.
- Wrap arms behind knees and pull toward chest.

Hold for ____ minutes every ____ hour(s).



☐ "Z" Lie:

- Lie with back flat on floor, head supported by a pillow.
- Put feet on a chair with knees bent at more than a 90° angle. (May support buttocks with a pillow.)

Rest for ____ minutes every ____ hour(s).

Pattern #1 - Patient Education

☐ Lumbar Roll - Sitting:

- Use a straight backed chair and ____ cm (____ inch) lumbar roll to support curve of the back.

Rest for ____ minutes every ____ hour(s).



☐ Lumbar Roll - Night:

- Use lumbar night roll under mid-back when sleeping to support curve of the back.

Other Care Information

For the first few days, you may only be able to lie on your stomach (see Prone Lie). Progress to prone extension using your arms, at your health care provider's recommendation.

☐ Sloppy Pushup:

- Lie on stomach with hands on either side of head.
- Keep lower body on floor and use arms to slowly raise upper body. (Hands may need to be positioned above head to fully extend elbows, while pelvis remains on the floor.)
- Keep back muscles relaxed.

Rest for ____ minutes every ____ hour(s).



To strengthen your back muscles, your care provider may prescribe other exercises and stretches.

Please see **General Recommendations for Maintaining a Healthy Back: Patient Information**.

- Your back will feel better when you walk or stand rather than sit. Schedule ____ minutes of walking every ____ hour(s).
- When standing, place one foot on a stool to relieve pressure on your back. Switch feet every 5 to 15 minutes. Maintain good posture.
- Avoid rolling your spine forward. This may put more pressure on the painful areas and increase your discomfort.

Comments



Pattern #2 - Patient Education

Symptoms

- ✓ Pain is worst in the lower back and may spread to buttocks or legs.
- ✓ Pain is always intermittent.
- ✓ Pain is worse when bending backward and when standing or walking for extended periods.
- ✓ Pain may be eased by bending forward or sitting.

Positions and Exercises

The following positions and exercises can be done at home to rest your back and reduce pain. Your health care provider will check the boxes next to the positions and exercises recommended for your condition.



☐ “Z” Lie:

- Lie with back flat on floor, head supported by a pillow.
- Put feet on a chair with knees bent at more than a 90° angle. (May support buttocks with a pillow.)

Rest for ____ minutes every ____ hour(s).



☐ Knees to Chest:

- Lie on back with knees bent and feet flat on the floor
- Slowly, bring knees up towards chest. Bringing the legs up one at a time makes it easier.
- Wrap arms behind knees and pulling toward chest.

Hold for ____ minutes every ____ hour(s).



☐ Sitting Flexion:

- Sit with feet flat on the floor, about hip-width apart.
- Lean forward to rest stomach on lap. Allow arms and head to hang near feet.
- With hands on knees, use arms to raise upper body.

Hold for ____ seconds. Do ____ repetitions.

Pattern #2 - Patient Education

Other Care Information

Progress to these exercises at your health care provider's recommendation.



☐ Trunk Flexion Stretch (sustained flexion):

- Kneel on hands and knees.
- Tuck in chin and arch back.
- Slowly sit back on heels, dropping shoulders towards floor.

Hold for ____ seconds, then relax.

Do ____ repetitions.



☐ Knees to Chest Stretch:

- Lie on back with knees bent and feet flat on floor.
- Raise one knee to chest and slowly raise the other to meet it. (Use hands to lift knees if necessary.)
- Place hands around knees and pull gently to chest. Press back firmly against floor by flexing stomach muscles.

Hold for ____ seconds, then relax.

Do ____ repetitions.

Your health care provider may recommend other exercises and stretches. Please see **General Recommendations for Maintaining a Healthy Back: Patient Information**.

- When standing up, reduce unnecessary load on the spine by using your arms on your thighs to push your upper body into an upright position.
- **Avoid extension:** Do not bend your back backwards. This may cause more pain.

Comments