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wheelchair

A qualified medical professional should educate and train users for appropriate use. It is your responsibility to use this device correctly.

A Wheelchair should provide easy transportation, comfortable seating, and as much functional independence for the user as possible.


Folding and unfolding the wheelchair: To fold, simply lift up under the center of the front edge of the seat upholstery. Press down on one or both seat rails with hands on top. Be careful not to pinch your fingers.

Applying the wheel locks: Push forward on the lock tips, (or pull back on the pull-to-lock type), until the locks snap into the locked position. DO NOT attempt to enter or exit the wheelchair without having the locks securely engaged.

Folding the footplates up into a vertical position: If the foot plates are equipped with heel loops, these must first be pulled forward over the rear of the footplates. The footplates themselves can then be folded up into the vertical position by lifting up on the inside edges of the footplates. Never step over foot plates or leg rests when transferring.

Releasing and swinging away the front rigging: Whether the wheelchair is equipped with standard footrests or elevating leg rests, this procedure permits the user to make much closer approaches for easier, safer transfers to beds, toilets, automobiles, etc. Simply activate the release mechanism and swing the front rigging around to the side of the wheelchair. While in this swing away position, the front rigging can also be removed from the chair entirely by lifting it off. This removal will make lifting the chair or loading it into a car much easier for the caregiver.

From the swing-away position, the front rigging can be returned to the standard position by simply swinging it back to the front of the wheelchair. It will lock automatically in the forward



position. If the front rigging has been removed from the chair, simply replace it in the swing away position, and then swing it back to the standard front position when required.

A medical professional should make these adjustments for you.

Elevating leg rest adjustment: If the wheelchair is equipped with elevating leg rests, the legs of the user can be elevated by simply lifting the leg rests up to the desired position. To lower them again, support the leg rest with one hand while activating the elevation release mechanism with the other and lower it to the desired position.

Footrest length adjustments: The position of the foot plate on either standard footrests or elevating leg rests is adjustable to fit the user's leg length. The knees and hips of the user should be at approximately the same level. The lowest edge of the foot plate must be at least two inches above the floor to provide safe clearance when negotiating ramps or inclines. This adjustment is made by loosening the adjustment bolt with a wrench, telescoping the foot plate in or out to achieve the desired position, then retightening the bolt securely.

The user or caregiver should perform basic safety checks on the wheelchair at frequent intervals. Check hand grips and the rubber tips on the tipping levers to ensure that they are tight and secure. Check the locks for proper adjustments to confirm that they lock the large wheels securely when engaged. Look over all nuts, bolts and attaching hardware for proper tightness. If the wheelchair is equipped with pneumatic tires, check for proper tire pressure. Check for proper footrest length adjustment. If any unsafe conditions are found, please discontinue use of the wheelchair, and contact a medical equipment company to schedule repairs.

Remember to engage the wheelchair locks before transferring to or from the chair.

Avoid developing pressure sores from prolonged sitting by frequently practicing some type of weight shift. Your physician or therapist can direct you about appropriate weight shifting for your needs.

Do not lean in the wheelchair. This is particularly important for users with heavy leg casts using elevating leg rests.

It is your responsibility to maintain and provide upkeep of this item. It is your responsibility to use this device correctly.

