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Magic Mobility

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# **POWER TO THE PEOPLE**

Evidence and considerations when prescribing powered mobility.



Lisa Bidgood Occupational Therapist, Sunrise Medical October 2021







Motorised mobility devices were first thought to be used in the early 1900's.

Canadian inventor, George Klein, is widely credited with initiating the design of the first electric motor powered wheelchair.

Mass production began in 1956 with all configurations of bases being rear-wheel drive systems.

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"The Klein Chair."





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The successful wheelchair provision process is not simply assessment followed by prescription.

Rather, it's a multi-stepped process which requires many considerations<sup>21</sup>. To achieve optimal seating and mobility for the individual, these steps include:



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# **POWER MOBILITY: DEFINED**



- are intended to provide both mobility and function.
   are complete systems which include:
- 1. <u>Primary components</u>: base, seating, drive control, motors, and batteries
- 2. Secondary components: positioning equipment



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3. Additional components: electronics / accessories / driving control.

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#### POWER MOBILITY: ENVIRONMENTAL CATEGORIES

#### Indoor

- \*Smaller drive wheel (10 to 12 inches) \*Slower driving speeds
- •Exceptional maneuverability

#### Indoor/Outdoor

- \*Larger drive wheel (12 to 14 inches) \*Faster speeds
- •Suspension

#### <u>Outdoor</u>

- •Primarily intended for outdoor use.
- •Obstacle climbing
- Suspension.
- Adventure / Off road
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# **IT'S ALL ABOUT THAT BASE**

# Stable base

- Performs well when driving over soft terrain, grass, uneven gravel or climbing curbs
  Legs can be "tucked back"
- Legs can be rocked back
   due to front castor position
  - improved proximity to work surfaces for functional / daily tasks and helpful in environments with reduced space
  - beneficial for individuals with tight hamstrings

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# **IT'S ALL ABOUT THAT BASE**



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# IT'S ALL ABOUT THAT BASE







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#### **IT'S ALL ABOUT THAT BASE** off-road recreation and vocation Regular use on rural properties and country roads Designed to withstand certain environmental barriers – reducing : Hybrid injury /accident <sup>3</sup> reduced damage & repairs to PWC Function Accessibility potential reduced injury /accident when "driving through environmental barriers" <sup>3</sup> • Driving performance of rear wheel with 0 Improved independence through reduction of physical barriers smaller turning radius Longer turning radius because of the Medical 13, 14, 18, 20 base length - intuitive to drive Decreased vibration reduces spasms / pain symptoms risk of secondary physical injuries <sup>10</sup> and psychological symptoms<sup>4</sup> increased sitting tolerance Function Accessibility assist with control of driving input in clients with weakness or motor control issues. rid Wheel I (HWD) OVING PEOPLE'S LIVES to the people. Evid IMP

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Steering lock	Safety Accessibility
	<ul> <li>keeps the chair on track on rough terrain, kerb climbing and steep inclines</li> <li>assists when reversing from vehicles via ramp</li> </ul>
Wheelchair lock	Safety
	disables the chair
Scooter stopper	Safety
	Remote stopping to disable chair
Stability wheels / roller	Safety Accessibility <ul> <li>Prevents mobilisation if PWC at an unsafe angle</li> </ul>
Stability roller	Safety Accessibility
	<ul> <li>Improves PWC stability on inclines – reduced risk of tipping</li> <li>Independent &amp; safe management of variable</li> </ul>

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TYRES	S	
	<u> </u>	EDICKE
Puncture protection kit	Safety Support reduction Accessibility <ul> <li>protects against damage from sharp objects</li> <li>reduced maintenance and replacement tyre</li> </ul>	e costs
Solid	Safety Support reduction Accessibility <ul> <li>no punctures but a "rougher" ride</li> <li>reduced maintenance / replacement tyre or</li> </ul>	osts
Pneumatic	Accessibility Medical <ul> <li>smooth ride with good traction</li> <li>shock / vibration absorption</li> </ul>	
Hybrid	Support reduction Accessibility     mobility across varied environments     Reduced need to change tyre types	
Off road	Accessibility	

Easily adjustable pressure when required

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n prescribing powered mobility.



- · Promotes communication, social engagement, self-
- esteem and integration with peers
- Reduced OH&S reports from carers 2, 18

**ELEVATE / LIFT** 



### TILT



## Posture Medical Support Reduction Safety 10,18

- Provides a change in position for individuals to reduce risks of:
  - pressure injury;
  - extensor spasticity;
  - respiratory, digestive, postural hypertension, complications and autonomic dysreflexia complications
- pain and increased seated tolerance
- improved access within the community
- best results of pressure reduction when tilt and recline used together (25-45° of tilt with 110-150° of recline)^2  $\,$
- critical when combined with recline & elevating leg rests MND<sup>5</sup>
- Tilt restraint considerations<sup>6</sup>



#### **ANTERIOR TILT**



#### Function Safety Capacity Building Support reduction

- minimises risk of falls during a standing transfer
- increased functional independence through functional reach<sup>7</sup>
- management of tone and abnormal reflexes
- · lowers front to seat floor height
- aids in digestion and speech production
  increased safety in meal preparation<sup>7</sup>

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#### RECLINE



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#### Posture Medical 11, 18

- · changes seat to back angle
- best results of pressure reduction when tilt and recline used together (25-45° of tilt with 110-150° of recline<sup>2</sup>)
- critical when combined with recline and elevating leg rests MND<sup>5</sup>
- potential reduction in discomfort / pain from vibration when in a
- reclined position than in an upright sitting position<sup>8</sup>
- when combined with elevating leg rests allows for personal care
- management of spasticity/tone
- shear reduction recline should be used when recline angle is greater than 120 degrees.
- Tilt restraint considerations<sup>6</sup>
- Pain reduction<sup>12</sup>

# POWER ELEVATING LEG RESTS



Power	Posture Medical Support reduction <sup>18</sup>
elevating leg rest swing away	<ul> <li>Oedema management<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Critical when combined with recline &amp; elevating leg rests for MND<sup>7</sup></li> <li>Flex or extend the knee with little or no support</li> </ul>
Manual elevating leg rest swing away	Posture Medical Support reduction
	<ul> <li>flex or extend the knee with little or no support from carer</li> <li>Effective in managing oedema<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Critical when combined with recline &amp; elevating leg rests for MND<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>
	Safe transfers
Centre mount power leg rest	Accessibility
	<ul> <li>Flex or extend the knee with little or no support</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Support functional tasks such as standing transfers or repositioning</li> <li>Oedema management<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Critical when combined with recline &amp; elevating leg rests for MND <sup>5</sup></li> </ul>

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POSTU	RAL SUPPORTS SUNKISE	
Arm rests	Accessibility Posture Safety	
	<ul> <li>Assist in transfers / Heavy reliance of armrest to transfer</li> <li>Removable to assist with hoist application</li> <li>Used for postural changes</li> </ul>	
Arm pad	<ul> <li>Justification required for pad size and material type</li> </ul>	
Lap belt	Posture	
	Positional support     Restraint consideration <sup>17</sup>	
Secondary	Posture	
trunk and pelvic supports	Justification required for any positioning supports to optimise function, posture and skin protection	
Forward	Accessibility	
fold backrest	Reduced chair height – ease of access to unmodified vehicles	
Tray table	Posture Accessibility Capacity Building Participation	
	<ul> <li>assistive device to carry out daily tasks</li> </ul>	

postural support for individuals with reduced trunk facilitate upright
 posture / eye contact and participation
 used to transport / carry objects

LIFESTYLE – RAM MOUNTS



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lablet /	Accessibility Function Capacity Building
phone holder	<ul> <li>Essential for individuals with reduced hand function</li> </ul>
Camera mount	Accessibility Function Capacity Building
	<ul> <li>Independently carry their own equipment in order to participated</li> </ul>
Cupholder	Accessibility Function
	stabilises drink whilst driving to avoid spillage - helpful for individual
	stabilises drink whilst driving to avoid spillage – helpful for individuals with reduced hand function
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## LIFESTYLE

Accessory charger	Accessibility Function Participation Safety
	<ul> <li>readily available power source for communication (telephone, tablet etc)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Safety for emergency situations</li> </ul>
Fishing rod holder	Capacity Building Participation • Independently carry their own equipment in order to
Lunnan	participateo
Luggage	Function Participation Capacity Building Support reduction
rack	<ul> <li>carry their own belongings (groceries, laundry) with little to no support</li> </ul>
Accessory	Accessibility Safety
bag	<ul> <li>Independently carry and have access to personal items and or consumables</li> </ul>
Sunshade	Medical Accessibility
	<ul> <li>Sun protection - essential for individuals who are prescribed medication which is deemed harmful / reactive to sunlight essential for individuals who have a discussion of size concern</li> </ul>
A Contraction	O For individuals with demonstrated interest in this IMPROVING PEOPLE'S LIVES Iffestyle activity 26

Ventilator Trav	Modical
venilialor rray	Medical
ana/or Oxygen Tank Holder	<ul> <li>Necessary to hold essential equipment for individuals who reauire mechanical assistance to breathe</li> </ul>
Transit Tie Down	Safety
points	<ul> <li>Essential to reduce the risk of serious injuries to wheelchair- seated occupants (ISO 7176-19 or WC19 / 20)</li> </ul>
Lights	Safety
	• important for wheelchair users to see their surroundings
	<ul> <li>Improves visibility of chair user in low light / night time <sup>19</sup></li> </ul>
Jack	Safety Accessibility
	<ul> <li>independent and efficient tyre changes in the community</li> </ul>



#### **DRIVING CONTROL** – **SCREEN & JOYSTICK**



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Accessibility Function Participation Safety

- Size of screen (LED, LCD, CJSM2)
- Vision
- •
- Access Swing back, height adjustable Stem option height adjustable individual requires joystick to be at a particular height for access and safe control
- Stem option quick release individual requires joystick to be quickly removed from driving position during transport for safety and accessibility
- Additional justification will be required to justify individual's ability to best access control power seat functions
- Additional justification for different joystick knobs are required due to reduced finger control, grasp etc.

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Thankyou Clinical@sunrisemedical.com.au

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