

IN PRACTICE: ACHIEVING SUCCESS WITH CUSTOM-MOLDED SEATING SOLUTIONS (PART 1)

DIANE TAIT, OT REG (ONT)
Hamilton Health Sciences

DEBORAH COX, OT REG (ONT)
Hamilton Health Sciences

TRISH ILLMAN, OT REG (ONT)
Hamilton Health Sciences

Achieving optimal functional performance in a wheeled base is contingent upon multiple factors. Stable seating is one of those factors. However, stability is of no value if it ends up limiting function. Finding the balance between stability and mobility for individuals with a complex physical presentation is of vital importance in achieving success in functional activities, whether using a power or manual platform.

Learning Objectives:

1. Registrants will be able to identify the factors that lead to a decision to utilize custom molded seating.
2. Registrants will incorporate concepts of postural support when creating a molded seating system.
3. Registrants will utilize information provided in the lecture to compare and contrast the features and benefits of the various types of custom molded seating systems.

Speaker Bio

Diane Tait is an Occupational Therapist who has worked in the field of seating and mobility for more than 30 years across the healthcare continuum from acute to chronic care, including inpatient, outpatient and community settings. Currently she is part of the Specialized Outpatient Rehabilitation Services at HHS, with her time split between the Adult Wheelchair and Seating Clinic and the Outpatient Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation teams. In addition, she has a busy private practice providing direct care and consultancy services in the fields of long term care, medico-legal assessment and ABI rehabilitation. Diane has been part of the CSMC planning and advisory committees since 1990, sharing her vision for best practices in seating and mobility. She is a recipient of the Mundy Award and holds an Assistant Clinical Professor (Adjunct) appointment in the School of Rehabilitation Sciences at McMaster University where she is involved in the education of future OTs.

Deborah Cox is an Occupational Therapist practicing in the Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) Adult Wheelchair and Seating Clinic. Deborah has provided seating and mobility solutions for over 20 years to clients with complex postural and mobility needs. Additional clinical experiences include a member of the Comprehensive Spasticity Management Clinic at HHS, SCI rehabilitation and complex continuing care. In addition to her clinical responsibilities, Deborah also provides education to the OT students at McMaster University.