

PRESCRIPTION FOR A BETTER REHAB SHOWER COMMUNE CHAIR

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RAZ DESIGN

A Rehab Shower Commune Chair (RSCC) is important for not just bowel and bladder care and hygiene routines but also can be an important piece of equipment in terms of skin health as well. Similar to a wheelchair prescription, a RSCC should be fitted in a similar method.

According to the World Health Organization there are steps to be followed with regards to Wheelchair Services - WHO Guidelines 2008, Section 3.2.1, p 76

The Workshop will follow the steps focusing on specific issues with respect to RSCC

1. Referral and Appointment
2. Assessment
3. Prescription
4. Funding and Ordering
5. Wheelchair preparation
6. Fitting
7. User Instruction
8. Follow-up, Repairs and Maintenance

Assessment

Interview – with client, family, care givers Determine needs / environment etc

Observation in current system

Bowel, bladder, hygiene and bathing needs

- *History / potential risk of pressure injuries?*
- *What are they doing now?*
- *When do they do it*
- *How do they do it?*
- *How long does it take?*
- *What support or assistance is required?*

Mat assessment

How do they sit in current system? Assessment in supine and sitting

Determine range of motion and postural tendencies - limitations/ accommodate/ improve for seating including pelvis, hip, knee, ankle, foot, trunk, shoulders, head and neck

Where is support needed for positioning posture control and function?

IT/Coccyx location/position for B and B care vis a vis the location of the aperture Access ability for B and B care

Where is support needed for positioning posture control and function

eg. Trunk support to allow them to lean, reach and access for digital stimulation and showering

Measurements –

Measurements for seating as per drawings from seating assessment

Specific measuring of IT position anterior/posterior and lateral aspects – with respect to the aperture and the seat support and back support. The IT's move forward when the pelvis is rotated posteriorly.

Therefore, it is important to measure the location of the IT's when the client is sitting upright with the

trunk in a stable posture.

Important to know the width and depth of the aperture as well as the location for the aperture

Goals of the client – ie independent mobility, transfer into car and pull chair in

Goals of the client – independent B and B care fewest transfers...

Independent showering

Product Properties of the mobility base and seating system – eg lightweight, tilt, weight capacity

Product Properties of the RSCC – for example : water resistant, tilt, over toilet, shower, access to area, skin protection, Trunk supports, foot/leg supports

- *Ability to configure a RSCC to best fit a client after a matt assessment*
- *Ability to re-configure a RSCC after an actual seating evaluation*
- *Ability to adjust*

Trial of equipment

Trial of equipment

Prescription

As per a wheelchair width/depth seat to floor, foot support, head support etc

Discussion

Similar to a wheelchair what happens when it doesn't fit?

Sliding forward

Deformities – scoliosis,

kyphosis Skin injury

Difficulty breathing

Decreased

Independence

Difficult to achieve the goal for B and B and showering

Speaker Bio

Jane Fontein, OT, has been an Occupational Therapist for more than 30 years, working in a variety of areas including long-term care and rehab, as a manufacturer educator and as a supplier. She worked at GFStrong Rehab Centre on the spinal cord unit and coordinated the out-patient seating programme. Jane has provided education seminars and in-services across North America and internationally for both wheelchair manufacturer, and seating companies. She has spoken at many conferences: ISS, RESNA, Medtrade and CSMC. Jane is currently self-employed and working as a manufacturer educator for Dynamic Health Care Solutions and Motion Composites.

Nelson Pang is Professional Mechanical Engineer and patent co-holder with over 30 years product design and business development in the home medical equipment industry. Nelson has worked with seating and power wheelchair manufacturers and helped popularize modular power wheelchair bases and power positioning systems. Co-founder of Tarsys Engineering and Raz Design, Nelson has helped developed innovative product solutions to address the functional and clinical needs of end users.