

### types of wheelchairs

power w/c -spinal cord injury, any level - multiple sclerosis -amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) -muscular dystrophy -severe rheumatoid arthritis -cerebral palsy -systemic lupus erythematosus

manual w/c person has enough upper body strength to push the wheelchair: -spinal cord injury, mid-thoracic, lumbar, sacral -CVA - multiple sclerosis -muscular dystrophy - arthritis -lower extremity amputations - other diagnoses affecting lower extremities

Diagnoses where the person is unable to propel any type of wheelchair - severe quadriplegic cerebral palsy -severe brain injury - multiple congenital conditions - advanced Alzheimer's disease

lightweight w/c Diagnoses that allow the person to drive and/or travel frequently. - spinal cord injury -amputations - multiple sclerosis -arthritis - cerebral palsy -muscular dystrophy

### types of wheelchairs (cont)

standing w/c Diagnoses that prevent the person from standing without total support. -cerebral palsy - spinal cord injury -multiple sclerosis -amyotrophic lateral sclerosis -muscular dystrophy

### positioning and support

contoured posterior pelvic tilt

anti thrust anterior pelvic tilt

wedge preventing slumping and sliding forward

pommel preventing sliding, reducing hip internal rotation, preventing knees from touching

sacral cut out reducing the pressure on coccyx and helps prevent pressure sores

no lean pelvic obliquity causing pt to lean to one side when seated

amputee supporting left/right/ or bilateral amputations

### wheelchair attachments

pelvic support strap SCI any level, CP, alzheimers, MS, TBI, CVA, MD advanced

wheelchair tray CVA, CP, congenital conditions, alzheimers, MS, MD SCI - mid cervical and below

### wheelchair attachments (cont)

lateral supports severe kyphosis, severe scoliosis, post CVA, CP, MS, cervical or thoracic SCI

posey drop seat cushion SCI C1-L1, Spastic CP, advanced alzheimers, severe TBI, severe seizure disorder, hip fracture

foot/ankle straps CVA, TBI, MS and other neuro conditions, CP, seizure disorder, LE contractures

arm trough CVA with UE hemiparesis

mobile arm support C4-C7 SCI, MS, advanced MD, ALS

all terrain w/c wheels any dx that requires w/c use

### w/c cushions

type	advantages	disadvantages
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foam	low cost, lightweight, low maintenance	can bottom out quickly
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gel	good pressure distribution, keeps you cool and can be used with a foam base	heavier, adds weight to the w/c, knead prior to each use to keep gel in place
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air *roho	exceptional pressure relief, adjustable firmness	ait levels need to be checked daily for leaks, less stable
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honeycomb	stable, keeps you cool	limited pressure distribution and positioning
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### w/c cushions (cont)

alternating pressure	automatic pressure distribution to prevent pressure sores, ideal for those who cannot adjust their position	higher cost, battery needs to be recharged
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### wheelchair for specific dx

hip replacement	Reclining back, pommel cushion or hip abductor, pelvic positioning strap, elevating footrests.	After hip replacement surgery, the patient is not allowed to bend the affected hip past 90 degrees or to adduct the hip. The reclining back allows the patient to sit with the hip positioned at less than 90 degrees of flexion and the pommel cushion keeps the hip positioned in slight abduction. The pelvic strap prevents the patient from sliding forward in the chair and the elevating footrests help to control edema post surgery
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### wheelchair for specific dx (cont)

SCI	Contoured solid seat and back inserts, pelvic and lower extremity positioning straps, lateral supports, chest support, lateral head support, may need power wheelchair, may need adapted switches to operate a power wheelchair. May use a standing wheelchair.	The solid seat and back are contoured to improve support and reduce the risk of pressure areas. The positioning straps hold the pelvis and lower extremities in place in the chair. If the person has a cervical or high thoracic injury, a chest support and lateral supports keep the trunk aligned and prevent the person from slumping forward. For high cervical injuries, a lateral head support keeps the head and neck in midline.
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### wheelchair for specific dx (cont)

spina bifida	Manual or power wheelchair with an adapted back, pressure relief cushions.	Children with spina bifida may need a custom back on a wheelchair to accommodate myelomeningocele (the portion of the spinal cord that protrudes from the spinal column). Pressure relief cushions are used to reduce risk of skin breakdown in areas with reduced sensation.
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### wheelchair for specific dx (cont)

CVA	Hemi-w- hee- lchair with one arm drive, solid seat with gel for pressure relief, elevated armrest.	The hemi-wheelchair is a lower height wheelchair that allows the person to propel the chair with the unaffected foot. A one arm drive allows the person to propel the wheelchair with the unaffected hand while keeping the wheelchair moving in a straight line. Gel or memory foam in the cushion helps to reduce the risk of pressure areas on the affected side. The elevated arm rest helps reduce edema in the affected arm.
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