

Recommendations for people who use wheelchairs ...

The recommendations below are based on the results of the Seating and Mobility Assessment. Follow the manufacturers instructions for appropriate cleaning materials and supplies, and the method for cleaning

Only the person's clothing should be between him/her and the wheelchair back and seat cushion. Towels, blankets, or lift sling (for example) alter the pressure distribution properties of the seat cushion and the fit of the back of the chair.

Check the wheelchair user for red areas each time the person is assisted out of the wheelchair for personal care - such as a bath or shower. Any red area lasting longer than 30 minutes needs to be evaluated by a qualified health practitioner to prevent a possible pressure sore.

Provide position changes frequently to ensure that skin remains healthy.

Lock wheel locks before moving into or out of the wheelchair.

Use the seat belt for safety. The user should wear shoes or protective foot coverings when in the wheelchair.

Use the footrests at all times unless the person uses their feet to propel themselves in the chair.



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Seating and Mobility Program

*A service of KDH Rehabilitation.
Assesment and support for those
who use/need a wheelchair.*



What is the Seating/Mobility Program ?

For patients who may benefit from a wheelchair, the Seating/Mobility Program is an assessment tool ordered by your provider and completed by a therapist and equipment specialist. The therapist and equipment specialist work with the patient to determine optimal seats, backs, and supports.

Once the assessment and justifications for purchase are completed, the information is sent to the patient's provider for his/her signature. After funding is approved, the patient comes back for the final fitting and delivery of the equipment, which includes any training on how to use the equipment properly. We work with your insurance provider as needed.

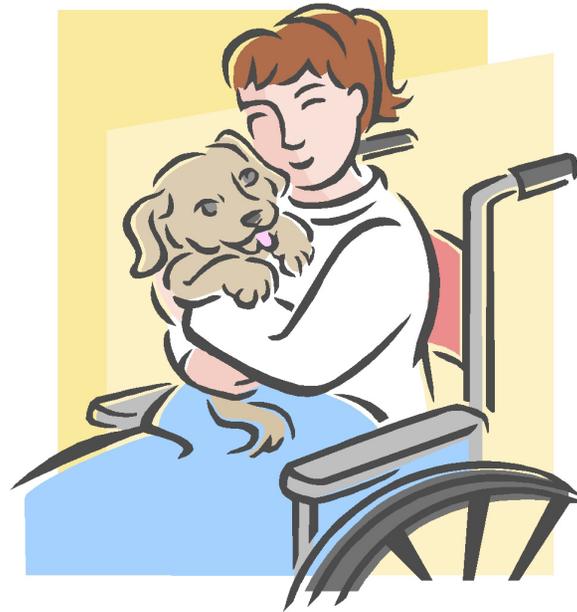
What is assessed during the evaluation ?

SAFETY and EDUCATION:

- Are the needed safety devices on the wheelchair?
- Does each safety device work correctly?
- Has the person been previously injured related to wheelchair use (tip overs / falls)?
- What is the condition of the wheelchair and is it safe and reliable?

FUNCTION:

- The person using the wheelchair will have a safe, reliable and well-fitting wheelchair and seating system for his/her daily and exclusive use.
- Does everything fit the way it is supposed to?
- Has the patient lost or gained more than 10 pounds since the wheelchair was fitted?
- Has the patient's functional ability improved or decreased since the wheelchair was fitted?
- The equipment needs routine preventative care and maintenance to ensure safe functioning of the device. Insurance can approve repairs and parts to keep the wheelchair in good condition.



What is assessed during the evaluation ?

FUNCTION:

- Has the patient's transfer ability or ADL changed?
- Has the patient's posture when sitting changed?
- Is the patient sliding out, complaining of pain, or decreasing the length of time they are able to sit?
- Has the patient developed a pressure area or has an existing pressure area worsened?

FEATURES:

- Has the patient's physical, environmental, or vocational situation changed which now requires different features such as tilt, power, etc?

How often should a person have a Seating/Mobility evaluation ?

Every year, a person may have repairs, adjustments, and seating parts evaluated. A well-maintained and adjusted wheelchair is safer, easier to use, looks better, and functions better. If a person has gained or lost weight, the wheelchair can be modified. A wheelchair is the device the patient uses to move. Maintenance can extend the life of the chair, its cushions, and functioning parts.

How to schedule a wheelchair assessment ?

Questions may be directed to the inpatient hospital rehabilitation team.

KDH Inpatient Rehab

(812) 801-0674

Physicians (providers) need to order a ... Seating and Mobility Evaluation and include the patient's birth date and diagnosis information. This may be faxed to:
(812) 801-0691.

The physician (provider) may need to provide a detailed progress note that states the reason for the visit is due to a need for a wheelchair, and the diagnosis must support that need.

