

**Island Home Medical
508-693-4380**

Wheelchair Patient Guidelines



OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Engage both wheelchair brakes before transferring to or from the chair.

Folding and unfolding the wheelchair: To fold, simply lift up under the center edge of the seat upholstery. To unfold, tilt the chair slightly to one side to raise the wheels on the opposite side off the floor. Then press down on one or both seat rails.

Applying the wheel locks: Push forward on the lock tips until the locks snap into the locked position. Do not attempt to enter or exit the wheelchair without having the locks securely engaged.

Folding the footplates up into a vertical position: If the footplates are equipped with heel loops, these must first be pulled forward over the rear of the foot plates. The footplates themselves can then be folded up into the vertical position by lifting up on the inside edges of the footplates.

Releasing and swinging away the front rigging: Whether the wheelchair is equipped with standard footrests or elevating legrests, this procedure permits the user to make much closer approaches for easier, safer transfers to beds, toilets, automobiles, etc. Simply activate the release mechanism and swing the front rigging around to the side of the wheelchair. While in this swing away position, the front rigging can also be removed from the chair entirely, by simply lifting it off. This removal will make lifting the chair or loading into a car much easier for the caregiver.

From the swing away position the front rigging can be returned to the standard position by simply swinging it back to the front of the wheelchair. It will lock automatically in the forward position.

If the front rigging has been removed from the chair, simply replace it in the swing away position, and then swing it back to the standard front position when required.

Removing and replacing detachable arms: This feature permits lateral or sliding transfers to and from the side of the wheelchair, for those users who are unable to stand briefly to transfer. Release the arm lock on the front receiver socket and lift the arm from the center to avoid binding. To replace the arm simply reverse the procedure. Attention to the location of the rear receiver socket will make replacing the arm easier.

Please Note: Reversing the arms without swapping sides will narrow the distance between the arms and could result in an accident.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

Engage both wheelchair brakes before transferring to or from the chair.

>>> The user or caregiver should perform basic safety checks on the wheelchair at frequent intervals.

1. Check hand grips and the rubber tips on the brake levers to ensure that they are tight and secure.
2. Check the locks for proper adjustment to confirm that they lock the large wheels securely when engaged.
3. Look over all nuts, bolts, and attaching hardware for proper tightness.
4. Check for proper footrest length adjustment.
5. If any unsafe conditions are found please discontinue use of the wheelchair and call our office immediately.

Do not lean forward in the wheelchair unless both feet are flat on the floor. This is particularly important for users with heavy leg casts using elevating legrests.

Warranty:

If you have purchased the wheelchair your warranty is for one year beginning with the date of original set-up. If you are renting the wheelchair your warranty is for the length of the rental.