

# Steel Wheelchair Owner's Handbook

*Please read this manual before operation for maintenance instructions and safe usage of this wheelchair.*



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## Introduction

This steel wheelchair is designed for use indoors, and outdoors in some circumstances. The wheelchair is designed for a single user of up to 115kg (18 stones). The wheelchair is available with 24" rear wheels with handrims or 12½" transit wheels. The wheelchair can be moved in all directions, and is manually propelled by the wheelchair user and/or a carer.

The wheelchair is manufactured by Medicare Technology. All Medicare Technology wheelchairs are manufactured to the highest quality and are CE compliant. Medicare Technology is an ISO 9001 and ISO 13845 certified medical device manufacturer.

## Manufacturer Details:

**Medicare Technology Ltd,**

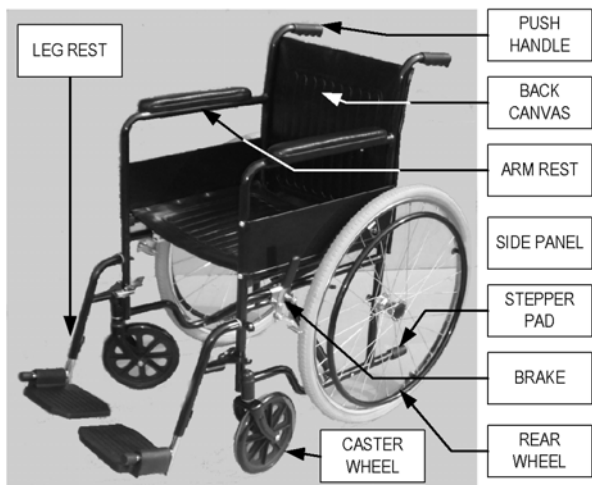
Ainley's Industrial Estate,  
Elland, West Yorkshire HX5 9JP.

Tel: 01422 314488

Email: [enquiries@medicaretechnology.com](mailto:enquiries@medicaretechnology.com)

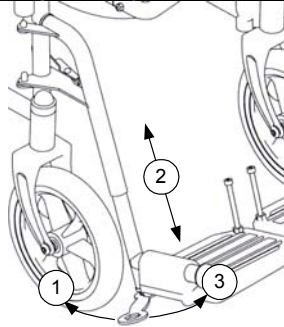
Web: [www.medicaretechnology.com](http://www.medicaretechnology.com)

## Parts Description



*The model shown above features 24" self-propel rear wheels with handrims. A version with 12½" transit wheels is available.*

## Legrest Adjustment



*Note: Always ensure the bolt is sufficiently tightened after adjustment.*

For optimum comfort it is important to attain the correct leg position. The footrests have been designed so that they can be extended into a number of fixed positions. To do this, release the bolt using the spanner (see diagram) and turning clockwise (1). Then adjust the footplate to lengthen or shorten the legrest (2). Finally, tighten the bolt by using the spanner and turning anticlockwise (3).

## Folding the Wheelchair

The wheelchair has been designed with an easy fold mechanism. To fold the chair, ensure that the footrests are in the forward position and that the plastic footplates are flipped up. Holding the front and rear edge of the seat sling, pull the seat in an upward motion. The wheelchair will naturally fold up.

## Transporting the Wheelchair

To transport the wheelchair, first fold up the wheelchair as previously described. Then remove the legrests by pushing the chrome lever on the legrests whilst pulling the legrest away from the chair. This operation should unlock the legrest and allow it to be removed by lifting up on the legrest.

## Using the Stepper Pad

Use the **stepper pad** to raise the front castors (when mounting a kerb for example). To use, push down on the rubber stepper pad with a foot.



### Warning:

Do not raise the front castors by pushing down on the push handles as this could result in damage to the wheelchair.

**To mount a kerb.** Approach the kerb head on. Then the attendant uses the stepper pad to raise the front castors, and lowers the front castors on the raised kerb. Finally the attendant should push the wheelchair forward, lifting it up slightly to mount the kerb if required.

**To go down a kerb.** Line up the front castors with the edge of the kerb. The attendant uses the stepper pad to raise the front castors and tip the user slightly back. Keeping the castors raised, slowly lower the wheelchair down the kerb.

## Using a Lap Belt

Most lap belts can be retrofitted to the wheelchair. The lap belt should be routed around the back of the two back posts of the wheelchair. The lap belt needs to be secured to the back post and prevented from moving up or down the back post, as this can be hazardous to the user.

Secure the lap belt by unscrewing the back canvas and installing the lap belt in between the back posts and the back canvas. For safety, it is not recommended that the lap belt is installed any more than 10cm (4") higher than the seat canvas.

There is a risk of suffocation from users 'submarining' (where they slide down the chair until the lap belt is around the neck area). To reduce the risk of this, ensure that the lap belt is used under supervision and is used as instructed.

A lap belt may not be suitable for all users of wheelchairs. Seek professional medical advice before using the lap belt.

The above instructions only provide a guideline for lap belt installation. Please refer to the documentation supplied with the lap belt for full installation and operation instructions.

## Brake Adjustment and Operation



To apply the parking brakes, push the plastic brake handle towards the front of the wheelchair. Push the handle back to release the brakes.

Adjustment is made to the brake by loosening the Allen key bolt head (black arrow) using the Allen key supplied, and then by sliding the brake unit along the frame. Once adjusted, retighten the bolt.

**The brakes are preset, and adjustment should only be necessary if the brakes become loose or no longer function correctly.**

## Operation and Propulsion



### Before Using the Wheelchair read the safety notices below:

- Use slow speeds on gradients. Do not exceed the maximum gradient stated.
- The wheelchair is only suitable for single occupancy.
- Keep your feet on the footplates when moving. Do not stand on the footplates.
- Do not use escalators.
- Do not reverse down a gradient
- Maintain proper balance at all times. Users should not move their centre of gravity out of the seating area.
- Do not reach for items further than your arm will extend.
- Be aware of hazards in your environment, such as narrow doorways, steps, household appliances, children's toys, etc.
- We recommend you consult your healthcare professional for advice about transferring to and from the wheelchair. The parking brakes should always be applied when transferring.
- The wheelchair brakes are not suitable for slowing the wheelchair down.

• **Propulsion**

- The wheelchair can be manually propelled by either the wheelchair user or an attendant.
- If an attendant is propelling the wheelchair, they should push using the push handles.

If the user is propelling the wheelchair, they should use the handrims attached to the rear wheels. The user can slow the wheelchair by applying pressure to the handrim using their hands. The wheelchair should not be user propelled in scenarios where the user cannot stop the wheelchair promptly and comfortably.

**Tyre Pressure and Inflation**

The tyres should be inflated with a manually operated pump and use a standard car tyre air valve (Schrader valve). Note that under no circumstances should a powered or compressed air pump be used. The tyres should be inflated for optimum user comfort and wheelchair ease of use. However, do not exceed the maximum pressure stated on the side wall of the tyre. This may differ slightly between tyres, but is typically 55psi (3.8bar) for 24" self propel wheels and 40psi (2.8bar) for 12½" transit wheels.

**Always refer to the maximum pressure stated on the tyre**

**Care and Maintenance**


- Before each use of the wheelchair, the brakes and tyre pressures should be checked.
- The wheelchair should be stored in a dry environment, away from direct sunlight. When in storage the wheelchair can be folded up
- The wheelchair should be kept clean and dust free. This can be done with a duster or damp cloth.
- The wheelchair comes with a toolkit to perform simple maintenance tasks and most common adjustments.
- The user should routinely check the following items. It is recommended that a Medicare Technology dealer services the wheelchair annually, where these items should be repaired, replaced, adjusted and/or lubricated if required:
  - Tyre pressure
  - Tyre wear
  - Wheel bearings
  - Castors
  - Brakes
  - Legrest locking mechanism
  - Seat upholstery
  - Back upholstery
  - Arm pads
  - Back posts
  - Wheelchair (folds up)

**Specification**

Model	Steel Wheelchair (self propel)
Dimensions *1 (L x W x H)	106 x 61 x 90cm 41¾" x 24" x 35½"
Dimensions *2 (L x W x H)	79 x 26 x 90cm 31" x 10¼" x 35½"
Seat Dimension (W x D x H)	40 x 47 x 49cm 15¾" x 18½" x 19¼"
Wheel Spacing: 43cm / 17"	
Weight *1	17.9kg / 39.4lb
Weight *2	15.2kg / 33.4lb
Max User Mass (weight capacity): 115kg / 18 stone	

All dimensions are based on the wheelchair in its default configuration. The above dimensions are for the 24" rear wheel version. The dimensions for the 12½" transit rear wheel version may differ.

Dimensions \*1 and Weight \*1 refers the wheelchair assembled. Dimensions \*2 and Weight \*2 refers to the wheelchair folded and leg rests removed



**Warning:**  
Do not exceed the weight capacity stated above. Failure to do so could result in damage or injury.

**Warranty**

There is a comprehensive twelve-month warranty from the date on which your new wheelchair is delivered. The warranty covers the wheelchair for repairs or replacement during this period. For more detail, please see the warranty conditions overleaf:

1. Any work or replacement part installation must be carried out by an authorised Medicare Technology dealer / service agent.
2. To apply the warranty should your wheelchair require attention please contact the outlet from which you purchased the wheelchair.
3. Should any part of the wheelchair require repair or full or part replacement, as a result of a manufacturing or material defect within the warranty period, parts will be supplied free of charge. Note: The guarantee is not transferable.
4. Any repaired or replaced parts will be covered by the balance of the warranty period on the wheelchair.
5. Parts replaced after the original warranty has expired will be covered by a three-month warranty.
6. Consumable items supplied will not generally be covered during the normal warranty period unless such items require repair or replacement clearly as a direct result of a manufacturing or material defect. Such items include (among others): upholstery and tyres.
7. The above warranty conditions apply to brand new wheelchairs. Second-hand wheelchairs supplied directly by Medicare Technology carry a six-month warranty period. If you are unsure whether your wheelchair is covered contact your dealer.
8. Under normal circumstances, no responsibility will be accepted where the wheelchair has required assistance as a direct result of:
  - a. the wheelchair part not having been maintained in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations
  - b. failure to use the manufacturer's specified parts
  - c. the wheelchair or part having been damaged due to neglect, accident or improper use
  - d. the wheelchair or part having been altered from the manufacturer's specification or repairs having been attempted before the dealer is notified

In the event of your wheelchair requiring attention, please contact your service agent / dealer and give all relevant details so they can act quickly.

The manufacturer reserves the right to alter without notice any weights, measurements or other technical data shown in this manual. All figures, measurements and capacities shown in this manual are approximate and do not constitute specifications.