What is “Standing Wheelchair”?  

- a.k.a ”Standing Chair“
- assistive technology similar to standing frame
- allows wheelchair user to raise the chair from seated to standing position
- supports the person in standing position
- enables interaction with people and objects at eye level
- Help people increase quality of life in PHYSICAL and SOCIAL areas.
- Decrease possibility of secondary diseases.

(i.e. Pressure sore and Urinary tract infections)
Why “Standing Wheelchair”? 

Why don’t we choose traditional wheelchair instead?

Potential Disadvantages of traditional wheelchair:

- Quality of Life (QoL)
- Secondary diseases (i.e. pressure sore, UTI)
- Limits in social activities and some kinds of sport activities
- Psychosocial problems
Diagnosis and users

People with *mild to severe* physical disabilities:

1) Spinal cord injury
2) Traumatic brain injury
3) Cerebral palsy
4) Muscular dystrophy
5) Multiple sclerosis
6) Stroke
7) Spina Bifida
8) Rett Syndrome
9) Post-polio syndrome
Types of Standing Wheelchair

1. Manual operation
2. Power-operated wheels with manual lifting mechanism
3. Fully power-operated
Benefits

- Health Benefits
- Lifestyle Benefits
Health Benefits

- Improve circulation
- Reduce skin breakdown
- Improve respiratory capacity
- Reduce urinary tract infections (UTI's)
- Strengthen long bones
- Reduce spasticity
- Improve bowel function
Lifestyle BENEFITS

- Improve independence among users
- Increase self-esteem
- Increase social-interaction
- Enjoy greater opportunities for employment
- Improve overall quality of life (QoL)
Contraindications of Standing Wheelchair

- Existing contractures
- Sitting for a very long time (X-rays, bone density)
- Bone Mineral Density (BMD), osteoporosis
- Postural hypotension
- Sacral shearing
Motivation

Motivation is an very important component in occupational therapy.

What is the best motivation to stand up?

- Be able to combine something useful/meaningful activities in daily lives.
- i.e: cooking, sporting, cleaning...etc.
MANUAL OPERATION AND PROPULSION
TEK ELECTRIC ROBOTIC MOBILIZATION DEVICE
full power standing wheelchair: 8400+

manual propel with power standing: 4700+
Documentation and funding

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Medicare

- may help fund some portion of a standing wheelchair

Medicaid

- funding varies from state-to-state in the U.S. Many insurance companies
- vocational rehabilitation organizations
- medical case managers
Effective documentation

- usually requires medical justification and a letter of medical necessity (a detailed prescription) written by a therapist or medical professional.
Example of an Equipment Justification

Letter of Equipment Justification

October: __________

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. __________ is a resident of __________ Rehabilitation at __________ Hospital and Medical Center. He was admitted with the following Diagnosis: __________.

He is being prepared for discharge to his home and community, on October __________. To ensure maximum safety and independence in his home, Mr. __________ will require the following equipment: 1) Wheelchair with REMOVABLE FULL-LENGTH ARM RESTS, Elevating Swag-Away leg rest ad Foam seat Cushion.

When out of bed, __________ will need to spend extended periods of time in Wheelchair to perform activities of daily living (i.e. for mobility to bathroom for hygiene, grooming, mobility to kitchen/dining area for all meals; mobility to Doctor’s appointment).

Please supply the Wheelchair to ensure a safe discharge and enable Mr. __________ to engage in daily living activities at his highest level.

Sincerely,

Therapist’s signature

Doctor’s signature

Rehabilitation

OFFICIAL NEW YORK STATE PRESCRIPTION

REHABILITATION

INSTITUTION (NPI NUMBER OF APPLICABLE) DUE TO

Prescriber Signature: __________

LEP Preferred Language

This prescription will be filled by a generic pharmacy unless the prescriber writes "No" in the box below.
Funding sources

- Public insurance/government funding (i.e. Medicaid, Waivers, etc.)
- Private insurance companies (i.e. Blue Cross, health maintenance organizations (HMOs), PPOs, etc.)
- Worker's compensation
- Disability insurance
- Liability insurance (i.e. car, home, etc.)
- Out-of-pocket (cash or credit card)
- Possible payment plan through supplier
- Child's school purchase for use at school (i.e. standing is part of child's Individualized Education Program (IEP))
- Purchase by workplace for use while on the job
- Purchase through VA Hospital
- Assistance from local groups such (i.e. Rotary clubs, Lions, etc.)
- Assistance from disability groups (i.e. MDA, MS Society, etc.)

Most states have resources such as PAAT (Protection Advocacy for Assistive Technology) and State Technology Assistance Projects that are resources for consumers seeking funding or going through the appeals process.
References


Paralyzed Living. (2011, October 10). *Standing Wheelchair* [Video file]. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZf1vXzMeNc