# Wheelchair FACT SHEET FOR TRAINING & SAFETY

Bellevue Healthcare

ecause Service Matters

# Safety

\*Refer to the manufacturer's manual or website for more information about your equipment.

- + Use a seatbelt if needed to maintain proper position.
- + Keep weight centered on the chair when reaching for objects.
- + Keep anti-tippers in down position.
- + Do not use wheelchair to do "wheelies".
- + Do not use wheelchair on an escalator.
- + Do not use the wheelchair for sitting in a vehicle.
- + Use the wheel locks to stabilize chair.
- + Keep hands and fingers away from moving parts of chair.

### How to Use

#### Unfolding

- 1. Place your palm on the seat rail and press downward until the chair is fully open. Be sure your hand placement doesn't allow for your fingers to get caught.
- 2. Engage both wheel locks and open the legrests.

#### Folding

- 1. Swing the legrests to the front, locked position.
- 2. Push the footpaltes to the vertical position.
- 3. Grasp of middle of the seat at the front and back edges and pull up to close the frame.

### Transferring

- 1. Remove or swing away armrest and/or legrest that may be in the way, if possible.
- 2. Position chair as close as possible to seat where you are transferring.
- 3. Lock the wheels.
- 4. Shift body weight to the seat.

\*Only try transfers by yourself if you have good mobility and upper body strength. Practice transferring with a caregiver. Use a transfer board if needed.



# For Caregivers

#### Going forward over a curb

- 1. Tilt the chair back to balance point and roll the chair forward until the front casters clear the curb.
- 2. Set the casters down and push the chair foward so the rear wheels and anti-tippers roll up and over the curb.

#### Going backward over a curb

- 1. Turn the anti-tippers to the up position.
- 2. Stand on the upper sidewalk with the rear wheels against the curb.
- 3. Adjust the anti-tippers back to down position.
- 4. Pull the chair up and over the curb.

### **Equipment Care**

#### Cleaning

- + Wipe down metal parts and vinyl upholstery. Use a soft cloth and a mild cleaner.
- + Use upholstery cleaner to clean upholstery when needed.

#### Wear & Tear

- + Examine tires and caster, and look for loose rims and cracks.
- + Check the spokes for proper position and connection to wheel.
- + Look for wobbling motion in wheels.

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