



## Vital Lite Wheelchair Instructions



Revised December 2023

# Owner's Manual Index

1. Introduction-----	3
2. Product description-----	4
3. Putting into operation-----	6
4. Drive mode-----	8
5. Safety of use-warning-----	10
6. Technical Review-----	12

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE USING

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing our product. We are convinced that it will meet your expectations. Please read this document before first use. This manual is provided to provide you with the necessary information on the safe use of the device. Correct compliance with the recommendations will significantly contribute to extending product durability and aesthetics. We would like to point out that we are constantly trying to improve the quality of our products, which may result in minor changes that are not included in the instructions.

The manual transport wheelchair has been designed for indoor and outdoor use. It can be used with an accompanying person to support.

This booklet describes how you can use the wheelchair safely, how to transport it and look after it. Please refer to this booklet whenever you need to. It is important that you read this booklet and follow the safety instructions with care. Incorrect use of your transport chair can lead to accidents and injuries. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.

### **APPLICATION**

The transport chair is used for the individual transport of the disabled after spinal cord injury, with cerebral palsy, and with various lower limb injuries, neuromuscular diseases, after cranial-cranial injuries or for geriatric patients.

### **INDICATION**

Inability to walk or severely pronounced walking disability due to

- > Paralysis
- > Loss of limbs
- > Limb defect/deformation
- > Joint contracture/joint damage (not on both arms)
- > Other diseases

### **CONTRAINDICATION**

Use of the wheelchair is unsuitable in the case of

- ▬> Severe disequilibrium
- ▬> Loss of limbs on both arms
- ▬> Joint contracture/joint damage on both arms
- ▬> Inability to sit

## **2.PRODUCT DESCRIPTION**

The wheelchair is packed in a cardboard box. Please keep the packaging if possible- it can subsequently be used to store the wheelchair if necessary.

The wheelchair is pre-assembled and very easy to set up. To get started, you simply must unfold the wheelchair and click the leg rests into place. In the following chapter you can find some information about how to set up and use your wheelchair.

### **List of items inside the packaging**

On receipt by the patient, please immediately check to make sure that the contents are complete and undamaged. The contents consist of:

1. Set of cardboard box and packaging
2. Pre-assembled wheelchair
3. Backrest cushions
4. Seat cushions

## Basic Components



## 3. PUTTING INTO OPERATION

### Opening, Folding and Sitting on the Transport Chair:

#### 1. Opening the wheelchair

- Stand in front of the wheelchair.
- Push down and outward on the sides of the seat, keeping your fingers pointing inwards to prevent them getting trapped.
- Continue pushing downwards until the wheelchair is fully opened.

#### 2. Folding the wheelchair

- Lift the footplates up
- Stand beside the wheelchair, grasp the front and back of the seat cover from the center and pull upwards.
- Never attempt to lift the wheelchair by any detachable parts (e.g. armrests). This can result in injury.

#### 3. Getting into your wheelchair

- Make sure the brakes are on.
- Make sure the footplates are folded up.
- Stand with your back to the chair and put your hands on the armrests.
- You can now lower yourself onto the seat. Lower the footplates and place your feet comfortably against the heel loops.

#### 4. Getting out of your wheelchair on your own

- Make sure the brakes are on.
- Make sure the footplates are folded up or swung out of the way.
- Make sure you have any walking aids you need nearby and that these are positioned correctly near to your bed or chair. (With advice from your therapist you may be transferred from your bed or chair in a different way, e.g. from the side.)

- Place your hands on each armrest, lean slightly forwards and, with both feet on the floor push into a standing position.

## **5. Using the Hand brake**

The hand brake enables the user to park the wheelchair securely.

- Actuate the hand brake (tire brake) when stationary.
- To do this, push the lever forwards until it stops independently. The wheelchair is now standing securely; you can now transfer or simply park.
- The locking brake is released by pulling the lever backwards.

## **6. Braking by an accompanying person**

- While moving, slow down the wheelchair by pulling both levers upwards. To park the chair, you can lock the brake levers. To do this, pull up the lever and subsequently pull up the small locking lever.
- The locking lever will then engage automatically. To release the brake simply pull the brake lever upwards and the locking lever will release automatically.
- The accompanying person can use the optional drum brake as a service and hand brake.
- This is particularly advantageous when moving on slopes. Movement can then be reduced by applying the brake levers more or less strongly as required. In addition, the drum brake can also be used as a parking brake.

### **NOTE**

**Always use the left and right brake simultaneously. Using only one side will make the chair very hard to manoeuvre.**

## 4 DRIVE MODE

### **Instructions for pushing the transport wheelchair**

- Always make sure the brakes are on when the chair is not being pushed.
- Make sure your passengers' feet are safely on the footplates and elbows, all clothing, blankets or bags are tucked in safely.
- Look well ahead for possible hazards.
- Avoid steep, soft or uneven surfaces as these will make it harder to push or could cause the chair to tip over.
- Always let the person in the chair know what you're going to do, such as tilting them or turning quickly.
- Do not hang heavy bags or shopping bags on the handles of the chair.
- This can change the center of gravity and cause the chair to tip backwards.

### **Going down a curb (with someone pushing the wheelchair)**

- Going down a curb backwards is recommended as it is safer and takes less effort.
- Take extreme care when stepping onto a road.
- Make sure the road is clear.
- Back the wheelchair to the edge of the pavement.
- Pull the rear wheels gently down onto the road surface.
- When the front castors are at the edge of the curb, pull on the handles and push one tipping lever with your foot to balance the passenger on the rear wheels. Pull the wheelchair further back into the road and lower the front castors before turning to cross the road.

### **Going up a curb (with someone pushing the wheelchair)**

- Push the wheelchair until the footplates are at the edge of the curb.
- Hold the wheelchair handles firmly and tilt the chair backwards using the tipper lever until the back wheels touch the curb. The front wheels should be



placed on the path.

- Use the handles to lift and push the wheelchair forward.

### **Going down a steep slope with the help of a caregiver**

- It is safest if the wheelchair can be guided down a steep slope backwards by an accompanying person.
- A risk of tipping over backwards exists on slopes of 10° or more.

### **Getting up and down stairs**

- Never attempt to use stairs, or to lift a chair with the passenger in it.
- Never attempt to use a wheelchair on an escalator either alone or with anyone helping.
- It is easier to go backwards into a lift so that you do not have to turn around in a confined space.

### **Transporting the transport chair**

Lifting a wheelchair into the boot of a car

- Remove the hand brake. If the backrest is hinged, fold it down.
- Fold the wheelchair. Wheel it next to the car, parallel to the open boot. Apply the brakes.
- Grip either side of the fixed frame of the chair.
- Keeping your back straight, bending your hips and knees, lift the wheelchair vertically and balance it on the edge of the boot.
- Slide the wheelchair on its side into the boot.(You can protect the edge of the boot with a blanket.)

## 5.SAFETY OF USE-WARNING

Before using the wheelchair, read the instructions for use and keep it for future reference:

1. Apply the brakes when getting on and off the wheelchair.
2. Before getting on or off the wheelchair, do not step on the footplates, they must be folded down beforehand.
3. Carrying the wheelchair with the user is unacceptable.
4. When moving the wheelchair through aisles, make sure that there is enough space on both sides to avoid injury or damage to the wheelchair.
5. When using public roads, obey the rules of the road.
6. As with other vehicles, you should not drive a wheelchair under the influence of alcohol or other medications or narcotics. This also applies to driving indoors.
7. The wheelchair is not intended to transport the patient up the stairs, as a stretcher or by pulling the patient on it. The structure of the wheelchair and connecting elements are not adapted to such large loads. If it is used in this way, it may weaken or damage the entire wheelchair support structure and cause a possible accident.
8. This wheelchair is designed for indoor and outdoor use- only on hardened and even surfaces
9. Using the product on a ground that does not give a certain support to the user, i.e. icy, wet, oily, strongly sanded, is not recommended.
10. The wheelchair can only be used on surfaces where all four wheels of the wheelchair touch the ground and contact is sufficient to drive the wheels properly.
11. To overcome difficult architectural barriers (steep or long climbs, high steps, etc.), a guardian's help is necessary – they may use the curb climber attachment.
12. The wheelchair should be carried by grasping the frame structure of the seat, never carry the wheelchair by the armrests or footrests
13. The wheelchair is designed for persons weighing up to 110kg
14. The wheelchair should always be easy to fold and unfold. In case of problems with

the assembly, read the instructions again or contact the manufacturer.

15. Be careful when moving on sloping surfaces. The maximum allowable angle of the surface up and down is 5%.

16. Both brakes should be properly adjusted. Incorrect setting of one, resulting in locking of only one rear wheel, on large slopes, may be the reason for the challenging rotation of the wheelchair around the braked wheel.

17. When lifting objects off the floor, do not reach backwards as you may fall.

18. When reaching objects avoid excessive leaning out of the wheelchair as it may tip.

19. All activities such as getting on, getting off, changing the patient's position, and stopping the wheelchair require activating the brakes of the wheels.

20. Do not leave the patient in the wheelchair (even when the brakes are applied) on ramps, ramps, filters etc.

21. In the event of contamination of the tires by oils, grease, water or other means, braking efficiency may be hampered.

22. After prolonged use of the wheelchair, the braking force may weaken due to the play between the brake pin and the tire of the wheel.

23. To maintain the wheelchair's operational integrity, it is extremely important to keep all its parts in a safe place and properly stored.

24. Storing the wheelchair in rooms with very high humidity (baths, laundries, etc.), or in the open air, in combination with lack of hygiene, will cause a rapid loss of performance and aesthetic parameters of the wheelchair.

25. It is unacceptable to use the wheelchair if any visible or noticeable damage has been found – it may indicate the potential risk of accident (e.g. wear of wheels, upholstery cracks, etc.). All repairs should be entrusted to qualified personnel, and during the warranty period manufacturer's service.

26. Care should be taken when folding the wheelchair, lack of attention may result in the fingers being trapped.

## 6. TECHNICAL REVIEW

The inspection should be carried out regularly, it should be preceded by a thorough cleaning of the wheelchair (so as to reveal any hidden damage) during the inspection:

FREQUENCY	SUBJECT OF CONTROL	COMMENTS
Before 1 <sup>st</sup> assembly	Check the technical condition of all elements in the packaging	Check that no components have visible mechanical damage
Before each ride	Wheel and brake control	The brakes may wear out, check the condition of the brakes before each use. Check the wear of the wheels and clean them of dust or sand.
Every two weeks	Fastening screws and nuts	Make sure that all nuts and bolts are tight
Every two months	Cleanliness and overall check	In the event of mechanical damage, contact the manufacturer immediately
Once a month	Wheel axles	Wheel axles should be maintained by placing a few drops of lubricant between the axle and the hub. The carriage must be lifted so that the wheel is above ground and can turn freely.
Once a month	Tire condition	Make sure that the tire tread is not worn, and that the tires have no visible damage