



# ELEVATE YOUR INDEPENDENCE WITH SEAT ELEVATION

*Seat elevation provides wheelchair users vertical mobility enabling them to reach and access higher levels. Seat elevation has endless physical, functional and psychological benefits that lead to greater independence and improved quality of life.*

- Improves reach and adaptability with daily activities, such as cooking, bathing and shopping
- Reduces risk of repetitive stress injuries related to overhead reaching
- Improves eye contact with others in social interactions.
- Reduces risk of cervical strain
- Transfers are easier from an elevated position
- Elevated position enhances safety while in transit.



**Consult with your NSM Representative about seat elevation options and next steps.**

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Am I a good candidate for seat elevation?

*Anyone using a power wheelchair that has a loss of function and decreased independence due to the inability to change heights are ideal candidates for seat elevation.*

- *Do you have difficulty, or need assistance to transfer from a power wheelchair to a surface that is higher than the power wheelchair seat?*
- *Do you have difficulty, or need assistance to reach high enough to access areas (such as cabinets, sinks, appliances) at home, school, work or the community?*
- *Do you have difficulty seeing where you are going, moving through crowds or safely crossing the street from a low (standard) seat height?*

*If you answered **YES** to one or more of these questions, you may benefit from power seat elevation.*

## Are there different seat elevation options available?

*Yes, several complex rehabilitation power wheelchair manufacturers offer seat elevation options. Speak with your NSM Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) to learn more about each seat elevation option and which one may work best for your needs.*

## Can a chair be retrofitted with seat elevation?

*It depends. Some complex rehabilitation power wheelchairs can be modified for the addition of seat elevation with minimal changes. To find out if your chair can be modified to add seat elevation, contact your NSM Assistive Technology Professional (ATP).*



## Does insurance pay for seat elevation?

*Many insurance plans do pay for seat elevation. The Veteran Affairs, Worker's Compensation, Vocational Rehab Programs and Commercial Payors (including Medicare and Medicaid replacement plans) will consider seat elevation on a case by case basis when it is shown to be essential for: transfers, reach, access, safety, communication, support of identified vocational or educational goals. Speak to your NSM Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) to better understand your current situation related to funding seat elevation.*

## Are there other resources to help cover the cost of seat elevation?

*Yes, Care Credit is a healthcare credit card that helps pay for out-of-pocket healthcare expenses not covered by medical insurance. Speak to your NSM Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) about Care Credit and other options including local programs that may be able to assist with funding.*

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LET'S GET *moving*