VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System

**Why this research is important:**
Electric powered wheelchairs use batteries that require long recharge times and frequent replacement. These batteries are also heavy and potentially unsafe, due to the risk of electric shocks and fires.

**Summary:**
The PneuChair is a power wheelchair that is propelled entirely by compressed air. Without batteries and electronics, the PneuChair is waterproof, weighs only 120 pounds, and can be recharged in 10 minutes.

**How the research will improve Veterans’ lives:**
Veterans are able to participate in water-based activities such as going to the pool or beach, as well as aqua therapy. The device’s lightweight allows for easier transport, which improves community integration. Also, the PneuChair improves safety by removing the possibility of the Veteran being shocked or the device catching fire.