

Manual Wheelchair with Standing Mobility



Minneapolis VA Health Care System

Why this research is important:

Current manual standing wheelchairs do not move when their users are in the standing position. This limitation dramatically reduces the utility of these systems.

Summary:

The VA MADE Program is developing a manual standing wheelchair with standing mobility. The hand rims of the standing wheelchair rise up with the user when going to the standing position, allowing them to move freely around their environment.

How the research will improve Veterans' lives:

Standing for wheelchair users has many functional (e.g. working at counter height), psychosocial (e.g. talking eye to eye) and health benefits (e.g., pressure relief on sitting tissues). Adding mobility to a standing wheelchair improves the efficiency of moving between these activities and increases opportunities to attain these health benefits.



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