Risk information about special configurations and accessories for HD Balance

IMPORTANT!

Certain accessories and special configurations for HD Balance wheelchairs entail increased risks during use of the wheelchair. These accessories and specially configured wheelchairs are marked with the label shown in Figure 1 and are described in this document.

Figure 1

If you feel unsure about which accessories or special configurations are applicable for a certain wheelchair, please contact HD Rehab to check. PLEASE NOTE! A wheelchair can be equipped with several accessories and special adjustments that entail increased risks.

Always check the Maintenance Schedule, art. no. 95730-1, to see if the special configuration your wheelchair is equipped with requires any special maintenance.

Increased seat height

The wheelchair has balance plates in an alternative configuration that elevate the seat unit 50 mm (Figure 2). The article number for these balance plates is 67052-6 (this is stated on the label on the inside of the balance plate).

⚠
- The wheelchair has a more elevated centre of gravity which entails a greater risk for tipping, especially on inclined surfaces.
- The cables for the brakes, tilt function and backrest recline function are stretched out more. Be careful to ensure that these do not suffer damage.

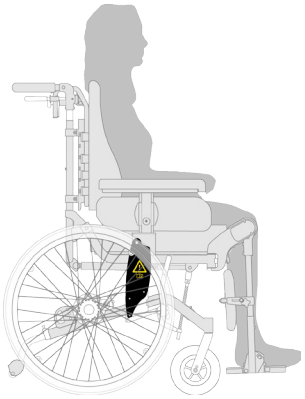

Figure 2

For information about configuration possibilities and limitations, please see "Reference table – balancing modes", art. no. 95758-1.

PLEASE NOTE! Always check that the user really does need a balance plate in special configuration. If the "wrong" user receives a wheelchair with special balance plates it could entail significantly increased risks.

Lowered seat height

The wheelchair has balance plates in an alternative configuration that lower the seat unit 30 mm (Figure 3). The article number for these balance plates is 67053-6 (this is stated on the label on the inside of the balance plate).

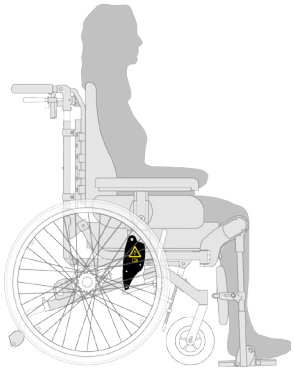

Figure 3

For information about configuration possibilities and limitations, please see "Reference table – balancing modes", art. no. 95758-1.

PLEASE NOTE! Always check that the user really does need a balance plate in special configuration. If the "wrong" user receives a wheelchair with special balance plates it could entail significantly increased risks.

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Box 1263, SE-181 24 Lidingö tel. 08-7670480 fax. 08-7675000 www.hdrehab.se info@hdrehab.se

Forward mounted seat unit

The wheelchair has balance plates in an alternative configuration that move the seat unit forward 30 mm (Figure 4). The article number for these balance plates is 67056-6 (this is stated on the label on the inside of the balance plate).

For information about configuration possibilities and limitations, please see "Reference table – balancing modes", art. no. 95758-1.

PLEASE NOTE! Always check that the user really does need a balance plate in special configuration. If the "wrong" user receives a wheelchair with special balance plates it could entail significantly increased risks.

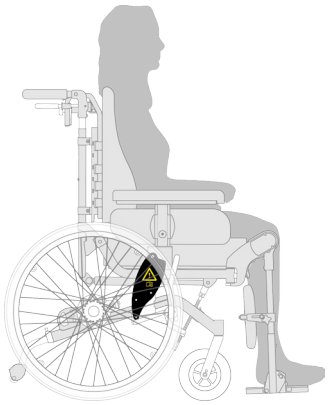

Figure 4

Back mounted seat unit

The wheelchair has balance plates in an alternative configuration that move the seat unit backwards 30 mm (Figure 5). The article number for these balance plates is 67057-6 (this is stated on the label on the inside of the balance plate).

For information about configuration possibilities and limitations, please see "Reference table – balancing modes", art. no. 95758-1.

PLEASE NOTE! Always check that the user really does need a tilt plate in special configuration. If the "wrong" user receives a wheelchair with special tilt plates it could entail significantly increased risks.

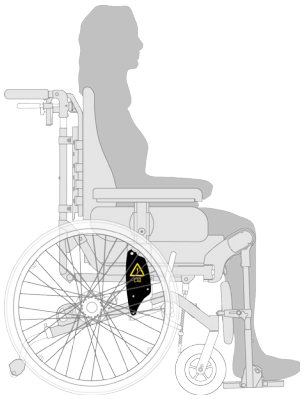

Figure 5

Increased backward tilt

A wheelchair equipped with increased backward tilt can entail an increased tipping risk for certain users. This applies in particular to users who are tall, who have had their legs amputated, or who have a heavy upper body, although it can also apply to users with special patterns of movement or unusual body constitution.

Avoid hanging heavy items on the backrest. HD Rehab recommends that you do not use the bag hook accessory on wheelchairs that are equipped with increased backward tilt.

A wheelchair equipped with increased backward tilt is labeled as seen in Figure 6.

Increased forward tilt

Users who sit in wheelchairs equipped with forward tilt (-5°) require extra attention to ensure that they do not slide out of the wheelchair and injure themselves. This is particularly important if a belt is being used, since the belt can prevent the user from breathing properly when he/she has slipped out of the wheelchair.

A wheelchair equipped with increased backwards tilt is labeled as seen in Figure 6.

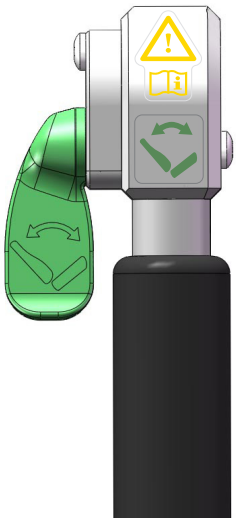

Figure 6

Extended back recline

A wheelchair equipped with extended back recline can cause increased risk of tipping backwards for some users. This applies in particular to users who are tall, who have had their legs amputated, or have large upper body mass, but may also apply to patients with specific movement patterns or different body constitution and often sit tilted backward.

Remember not to hang heavy things on the back frame or handle bar. HD Rehab recommends not using bag hooks on wheelchairs equipped with extended recline. A wheelchair with extended recline is labeled as seen in Figure 7.

Figure 7

Figure 8

Reinforced frames

Despite the fact that they have been reinforced, wheelchairs with reinforced frames run the risk of being worn out more quickly than normal since these wheelchairs are generally used in conditions that increase the risk of breakdown. Please pay careful attention to any cracks that might appear in the frame, or any other signs of wear and tear. A damaged wheelchair should always be taken out of use immediately. Reinforced wheelchairs are labeled as seen in Figure 8.

Bracket for IV pole

When a wheelchair is equipped with an IV pole (Figures 9 and 10) this can entail an increased risk of tipping, especially backwards. The risk is particularly apparent in situations where a heavy IV container hangs at a height and the wheelchair is tilted or the backrest is reclined. Take extra care in such situations, and make sure that you fully utilise the possibility of rotating the bracket in order to achieve as vertical a position as possible for the IV pole, thus minimising the risk involved.

Due to the risk of tipping which occurs when the backrest is loaded with heavy objects, the IV pole bracket should not be used together with the bag hook accessory.

Always use the anti-tip device! If the risk is deemed to be too high, the drive wheels can be moved to their rear position, thus making the wheelchair more stable but somewhat more sluggish to drive.

Diagram 9. IV pole bracket

Diagram 10. A wheelchair with reclined backrest where the bracket has been rotated in order to keep the IV pole as vertical as possible.

Electric actuators seat tilt and backrest

A wheelchair with an electric actuator requires extra attention in relation to the risks of pinching that arise when the frames move and the caregiver does not notice or sense that the wheelchair is jamming or sticking. The force produced by the actuator is significant! If the patient is supposed to handle the control him-/herself it is important to make sure that he/she can do it in a safe way and understands the risks.

This is particularly important when a table tray is used and the backrest is placed in an upright position, since that situation entails a risk for the user being pressed up against the table tray.

The actuators are labeled as in Figure 11 (seat tilt) and Figure 12 (backrest recline).

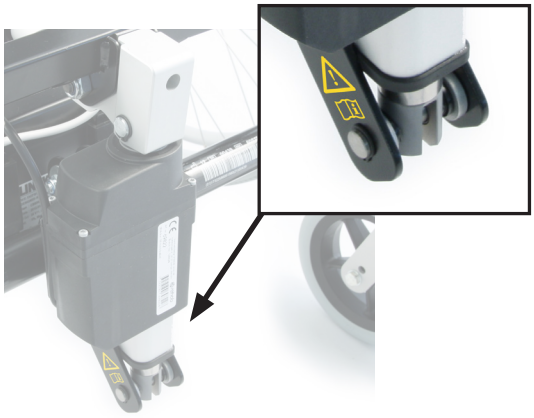

Figure 11

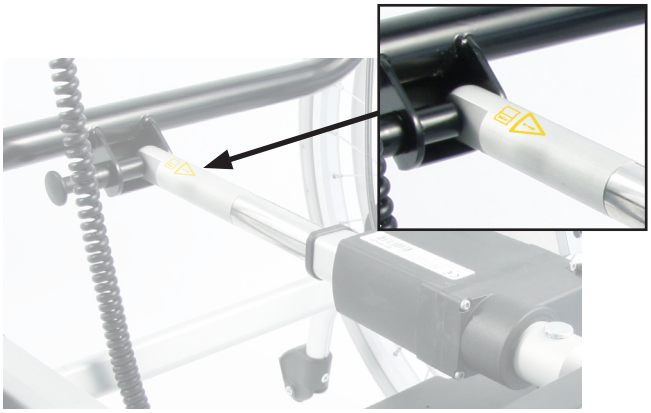

Figure 12

Back spacers

Back spacers (Figure 13) are used to provide a shorter seat depth than is otherwise possible.

The use of back spacers impacts wheelchair balancing and they should only be used in exceptional circumstances and for users who really need the short seat depth.

The center of gravity of the wheelchair moves and makes it more prone to tipping forward. This means users with a body constitution or a behavior that risks tipping the wheelchair forward are at particular risk when back spacers are used.

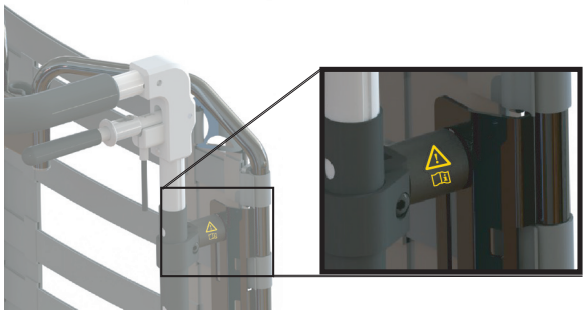

Figure 13, back spacers.

Anti-tip devices

The anti-tip devices are marked with warning labels as standard. These labels remind the caregiver that the anti-tip devices are disabled and should be returned to the active position. The anti-tip devices must always be in active position when possible.

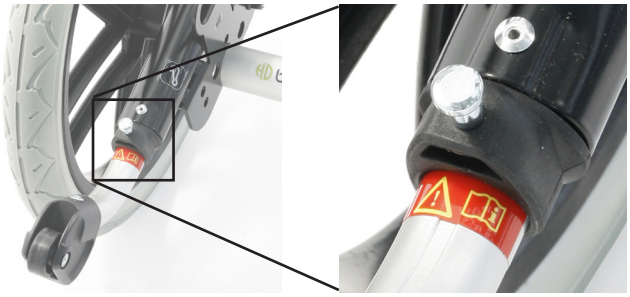

Figure 14, Anti-tip device

Special adaptations

Certain special adaptations entail increased risks and are therefore marked with the label in Figure 1. Please see the supplementary information supplied with the user manual for more information about the risks associated with the particular special adaptation in question.

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