

AlphaCare II®

Providing comfort and security when it is needed most

Assessment & Prescription Guide

CareFlex

Standard Features At A Glance

The AlphaCare II is our all-new comfortable yet robust seating system, developed with a key emphasis on safety and stability. The chair has been designed for individuals with postural instability and significant movements, such as those with Huntington's disease, dementia, and other neurological and neuromuscular conditions, in all health and social care settings.

Its linked seat and back recline function adjusts the seat angle as the back reclines, promoting postural stability and pelvic positioning. The contoured back supports a midline position, aiding physiological function and engagement. Supportive curved armrests provide lateral feedback for added security whilst offering protection for the upper limbs.

The ergonomic block leg rest supports the lower limbs, promoting comfort and energy conservation.

The leg rest block, secured by the intuitive CareFlex EasySecure system, is easily removable for transfers and activities.

Reflexion® foam in the seat and leg rest also addresses the pressure care needs of individuals with limited movement.

The AlphaCare II underwent a rigorous two-year trial to ensure it met the highest standards of safety, stability, and seating tolerance. This extensive testing period allowed for design refinements based on user feedback and safety assessments. The final design includes advanced features that ensure unmatched user safety and stability, making the AlphaCare II a revolutionary option for those with specialised postural care needs in sitting.

Available in two seat width configurations and with two seat height options to ensure optimum set-up for the individual user.

CLIENT GROUPS

- Neurological and neuromuscular conditions, including Huntington's disease and dementia
- Cognitive impairments that impact on safety, posture and pressure care
- Individuals with postural instability and limited control
- Individuals with significant and severe movements
- Semi-ambulant and non-ambulant users

FEATURES

- Linked seat and back recline**
- Pressure redistributing Reflexion® foam
- Contoured backrest
- EasySecure block leg rest** with quick release lever at push handle
- Comfort push handle
- Two seat width configurations: 380mm and 440mm
- Two castor options offering two seat height configurations: 485mm and 510mm
- Two fully braked castors to rear of the chair
- Transfer aid compatible
- Two year warranty

ENVIRONMENTS

- Hospital wards
- Rehabilitation settings
- Nursing and residential homes
- Domestic and home care
- Respite care

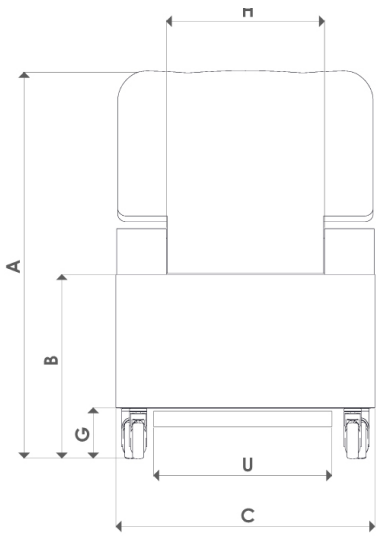
OPTIONS

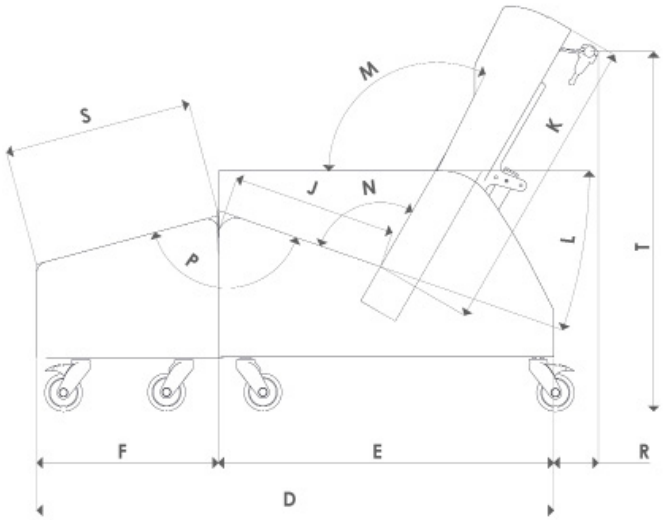
- CareFlex WaterCell Technology® upgrade
- Padded sliding footplate (available in small or large)
- Range of head supports with additional SecureFit straps
- Padded pelvic belt***
- Groin harness***
- Chest harness***
- Additional braked castors to the front of the chair
- Heavy-duty, antimicrobial and antifungal fabric upgrade in a range of colours
- Chair protectors



Technical Data

BASIC DIMENSIONS		MEASUREMENTS	COMMENTS
A	Overall Height	1015*mm/1040mm	*when fitted with 75mm Castors
B	Seat Height	485*/510mm	*when fitted with 75mm Castors
C	Overall Width	710mm	
D	Overall Length	1390mm	With Block Leg Rest Attached
E	Chair Length	890mm	
F	Leg Rest Length	490mm	
G	Clearance Height	125*/150mm	*when fitted with 75mm Castors
H	Seat Width	380mm or 440mm	
J	Seat Depth	470mm	
K	Back Height	790mm	
L	Seat Angle	20° (Starting Position) - 35° (At Full Recline)	Range 15°
M	Back Angle	A: 120° - 150° (Standard) B: 110° - 140° (Factory Option) C: 130° - 160° (Factory Option)	Range 30°
N	Hip Angle	A: 100° - 115° (Standard) B: 90° - 105° (Factory Option) C: 110° - 125° (Factory Option)	Range 15° (Determined by the Back Angle Selection)
P	Leg Rest Angle	130° - 145°	Range 15° (Dependent on Seat Angle)
R	Max Recline Clearance	400mm	
S	Leg Rest Depth	500mm	
T	Push Bar Height	945mm*/970mm	*when fitted with 75mm Castors
U	Footplate Width	Large 490mm Small 340mm	
V	Weights	Chair - 60kg Block Leg Rest - 18kg Maximum User Weight - 100kg*/160kg	*when fitted with 75mm Castors (All measurements ±10mm / 5°)





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Pressure Care

Posture and pressure are inextricably linked; body posture and positioning have a direct influence on the pressure going through specific body sites.[1] The body can only withstand high interface pressures for a short period of time, and when the loading of tissues is unequal and/or pressure isn't regularly relieved; pressure ulcers can occur.[2] There are also a number of contributing or confounding factors, including pressure, shear forces, friction and moisture, associated with pressure ulcers.

Everyone is potentially at risk of developing a pressure injury.[3] The impact of a pressure injury is profound, with individuals being affected physically, psychologically, socially, emotionally, spiritually, and financially.[4] Appropriate management or, better still, prevention can not only improve an individual's outcomes and quality of life, but it can also reduce the costs of health and social care services benefiting the wider community. A key intervention is pressure redistribution; regular repositioning is critical for those deemed at risk of developing a pressure injury as it is believed to be one of the most effective methods for preventing skin damage.[1]

Specialist seating systems aim to reduce the risk of pressure injuries by distributing the user's body weight evenly throughout the chair over the maximum surface area with posture supported as aligned and symmetrical as possible. The opportunity to sit out can offer a much-needed change of position to encourage blood flow and redistribute pressure.

Professional guidance from a Tissue Viability Nurse or District Nurse may be indicated.

- The AlphaCare II offers two cushion type options to address the pressure care needs of individuals with limited active movement who may be sitting for prolonged periods of time, depending on their level of risk.
- The AlphaCare II features vapour permeable fabric as standard to the main contact areas - seat and back.
- The linked seat and back recline function, if appropriate, can be utilised to redistribute pressure by changing the user's position against the forces of gravity on a regular basis.
- The block leg rest also incorporates Reflexion® foam in the top surface for additional pressure management.

SEAT CUSHION TYPE	DESCRIPTION	SELECT
Pressure Redistributing Reflexion® Foam (Standard)	Reflexion reacts to body heat and uniquely moulds itself around the user's contours. Interface pressure is reduced on critical parts of the body subjected to compression. The body weight is then spread more evenly across the whole surface area of Reflexion. This has been proven to promote improved circulation and lessens the development of pressure ulcers.	☐
CareFlex Watercell Technology® (Optional Upgrade)	Our WaterCell Technology provides a reliable and dynamic pressure care solution for those at an increased risk of pressure injury. The water cells work by allowing the seat cushion to contour naturally and effectively around the user's body. The layer of Visco-Elastic Memory Foam moulds to the shape of the buttocks and thighs, distributing weight over a larger surface area and minimising pressure build-up under bony areas. It enables the individual to achieve a stable and functional posture without compromising on pressure care and comfort.	☐

Postural Support

When an individual's ability to achieve good posture is affected, either through illness, injury, disease or disability, it can have a significant impact on their health and wellbeing. Specialist seating aims to allow individuals, who might otherwise have difficulty, to achieve their optimum sitting posture to sit out comfortably, interact with their environment, participate in activities of daily living and enhance physiological function.

The AlphaCare II offers a range of functions and accessories to enable optimum postural support at all body segments, encouraging pelvic stability and trunk alignment balanced with the need for safety and security. Two seat width and two seat height configurations promote optimum user positioning within the chair.

Linked Seat and Back Recline**

- Enhances postural stability and feelings of safety within the chair.
- Promotes comfort and enables opportunities for rest.
- Supports the management of involuntary movements.
- Encourages normal movement for functional engagement.

There are three options for the linked seat and back recline function which will be determined at the seating assessment and subsequently set at the manufacturing stage (this can be adjusted in the field by a trained technician). The selection is critical to chair set-up, depending on the individual user's hip range of movement and recline requirements.

	ADJUSTMENT RANGE	SELECTION
Back Angle	A: 120° - 150° (Standard) B: 110° - 140° (Factory Option) C: 130° - 160° (Factory Option)	☐ A ☐ B ☐ C
Hip Angle (determined by back angle setting)	A = 100° - 115° (Standard) B = 90° - 105° (Factory Option) C = 110° - 125° (Factory Option)	AS ABOVE
Please note: The seat angle adjusts from a starting position of 20° from horizontal through to 35° when the recline function is fully utilised to continuously support the pelvis. In the simplest of terms, regardless of the option selected, as back recline moves through 30° of full range, the hip angle moves through 15° of range.		

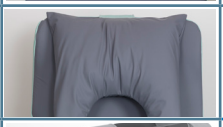
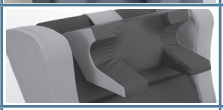
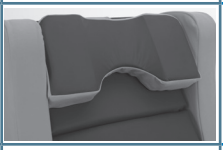
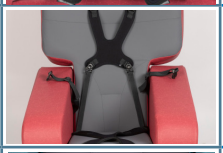
Contoured Back Support

- Gentle lateral support for the upper trunk to centralise the posture and encourage a midline position to aid physiological function and engagement in activities.
- Contoured pads will continue to support the individual in all recline positions.
- This may be indicated for users who present with limited sitting ability due to weakness, abnormal muscle tone or fatigue.

Block Leg Rest**

- The ergonomic block leg rest fully supports the lower limbs to promote extra safety, comfort and relaxation.
- Securely fitted to the chair by a unique intuitive EasySecure attachment system, and can be detached for transfers, repositioning or activities, especially for those who are more ambulant.
- The quick release lever is located at the push handle for ease of use and reducing the risk of injury to the caregiver.

Optional Accessories

NAME	DESCRIPTION	IMAGE	SELECTION
Padded Sliding Footplate	• Foot support when the block leg rest is not in use and during portering. • Select small if upgrading to four braked castors on the chair.		☐ Small ☐ Large
SecureFit Soft Headrest	• A comfortable rectangular pillow that can support the head if an individual presents with weakness or fatigue. • Added side strap for headrest stability. • Available in shallow and deep.		☐ Shallow ☐ Deep
SecureFit Soft Profiled Headrest	• A contoured pillow to support shoulders, neck and head. • Added side strap for headrest stability. • Encourages head alignment for interaction and optimum physiological function.		☐
Soft Headrest	• A comfortable rectangular pillow that can support the head if an individual presents with weakness or fatigue. • Available in shallow and deep.		☐ Shallow ☐ Deep
Soft Profiled Headrest	• A contoured pillow to support shoulders, neck and head. • Encourages head alignment for interaction and optimum physiological function.		☐
In-line Headrest	• Memory foam lining that provides full cranial support. • Cut-away sides for unobstructed sight and hearing.		☐
Foam Headrest	• Provides basic but firm lateral head support. • Encourages a midline position.		☐ Shallow ☐ Medium ☐ Deep
Neck Headrest	• Has a deeper profile to give greater lateral control when indicated.		☐
Groin Harness***	• Positioning aid that provides maximum pelvic control. • Assists in stabilising the position of the pelvis at the back of the chair. • Reduces the risk of the user sliding forward in the seat.		☐
Chest Harness***	• Provides anterior support whilst not restricting active positioning and function. • Lower straps have multi-direction buckles that swivel to avoid twisting and provide comfort.		☐
Padded Pelvic Belt***	• Intervention for anterior pelvic stabilisation. • Additionally, can be utilised as a safety belt when portering.		☐
Additional Braked Castors	• Replace the two front chair castors with fully braked castors for additional locking stability. • Only available with the narrow sliding footplate (if footplate indicated).		☐
Fabric Upgrade	• Heavy-duty, antimicrobial and antifungal fabric upgrade for the most demanding applications. • May be indicated for individuals with extreme movement patterns for increased durability. • Available in a range of appealing colours.		☐
Chair Protector	• Fits over the seat, arms and lower back. • Prevents contamination and stops debris getting trapped in the moving parts of the chair.		☐

DISCLAIMERS

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The information given in this booklet represents current advice at the time of publication. It is intended as general information and guidance and is not a substitute for professional medical advice which should be sought for specific, individual cases. It is the responsibility of the supporting clinician or professional, relying on independent knowledge and skills, to determine the best intervention and method of application for the individual.

**The linked seat and back recline function should always be prescribed responsibly, ensuring that it is safe and appropriate for the user following a comprehensive assessment of posture and risk, with advice sought from the multi-disciplinary team where indicated. In some cases, this function will be contra-indicated, and they could also increase shear and friction forces. An individual's ability to tolerate a leg rest will be dependent on their hamstrings muscles and knee range of movement; inappropriate elevation of the lower limbs can cause pain, a posterior pelvic tilt, and sliding down the chair, increasing shear and friction forces.

***All belts and harnesses (positioning aids) must be prescribed, implemented, and monitored responsibly following a comprehensive risk assessment. Please see the following for further information:
- British Standard (BS) (2019) 8625:2019 Selection, placement and fixation of flexible postural support devices in seating London: BSI
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO) (2024) ISO/TS 16840-15:2024 Wheelchair seating Part 15: Selection, placement and fixation of flexible postural support devices in seating [Online] https://www.iso.org/standard/80064.html
- Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Agency (MHRA) (2015) MDA/2015/018 All posture or safety belts fitted to supportive seating, wheelchairs, hoists and bathroom equipment London: MHRA

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2. Waterlow (2007) Pressure Ulcers Available from: http://www.judy-waterlow.co.uk

3. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) (2014) [CG179] Pressure ulcers: prevention and management. Available from: www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg179

4. Langemo DK (2005) Quality of Life and Pressure Ulcers: What is the Impact? Wounds 17(1)





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