

HydroCare

Our Comfortable & Supportive Care Chair

Assessment & Prescription Guide

CareFlex

Standard Features At A Glance

The HydroCare from CareFlex is a supportive and adaptable care chair that incorporates a wide range of features to optimise the seating experience of its inidividual user. The HydroCare has all the dynamic features you would expect from a CareFlex chair, such as seat depth adjustment, back angle recline and seat angle adjustment.

A range of covering materials are available, all of which are easy to clean to keep the chair free of contamination and looking at its best. From a living room to a nursing home day room, the HydroCare should be the first choice for individuals who need high levels of comfort, support and security.

The HydroCare incorporates various features that promote a sense of safety.

- Back angle recline adjusts the angle between the chair and seat back promoting comfort, relaxation and energy management for the user.
- Integral pressure management with WaterCell Technology and adjustable seat depth encourages maximum support and equal weight distribution with the aim of reducing the risk of pressure injury.
- A seat with an adjustable angle promotes pelvic stability and reduces the risk of sacral sitting and the user sliding down the chair.
- The sliding padded foot plate adequately supports and protects the feet during portering.
- The HydroCare is also designed with the user's support network in mind; four fully braked twin wheel castors distribute the chair's load over a larger surface area, making it easier to manoeuvre the chair around the environment.

CLIENT GROUPS

- Dementia care
- Frail and elderly
- Early stage Huntington's disease
- Palliative care
- Parkinson's disease
- Cardiovascular conditions Osteoporosis
- Rheumatoid arthritis

ENVIRONMENTS

- Dementia care units
- Residential care
- Hospital settings
- Hospices

FEATURES

- Nine combinations of seat height and width
- Three seat angle options (10°, 15°, 20°)
- Choice of Flat, Contoured and Waterfall back supports
- Integral Watercell Technology® pressure care
- Back Angle Recline (BAR)
- Integral sliding footplate
- Twin wheel braked castors



Watercell Technology

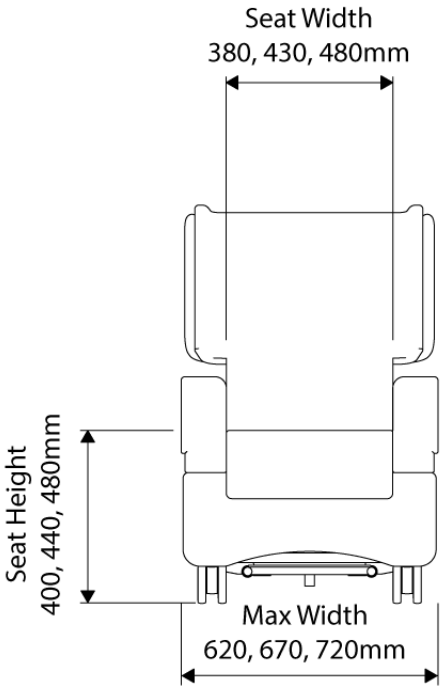


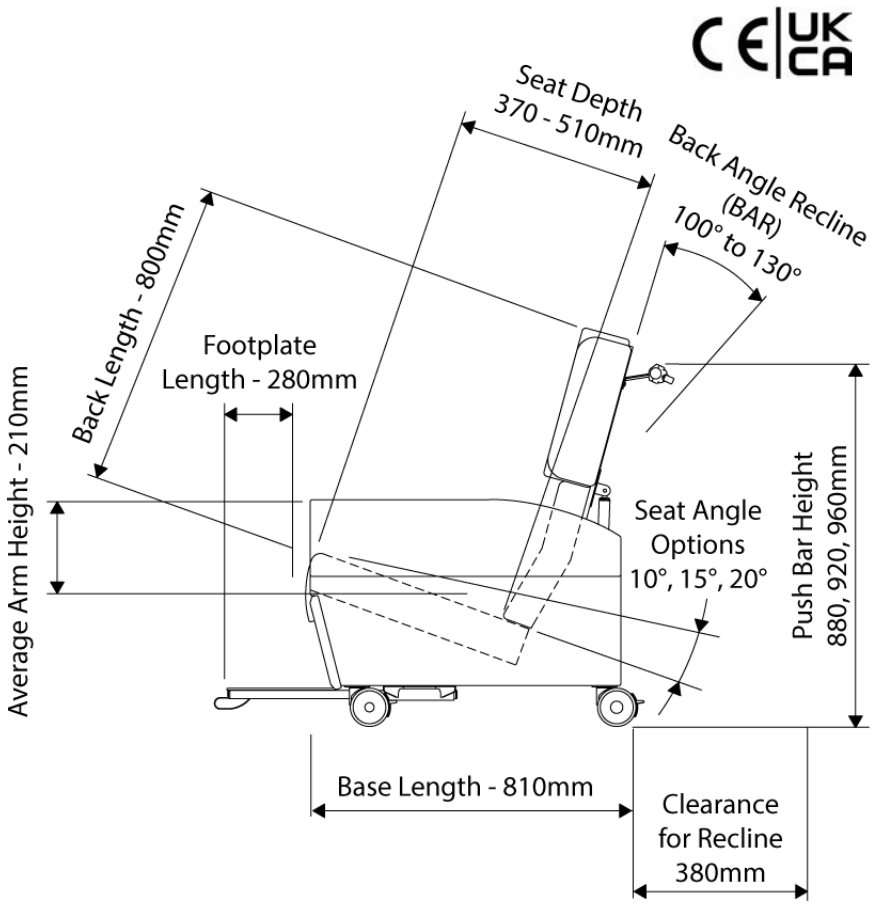
Block Leg Rest Option



Waterfall Back Option

Technical Data





Key Measurements	
Seat Width (Factory Set)	380/430/480mm
Seat Height (Factory Set)	400/440/480mm
Seat Depth	370-510mm
Seat Angle	10°/15°/20°
Maximum User Weight	160kg
Medium Chair Weight	49kg

(All measurements ±10mm / 5°)

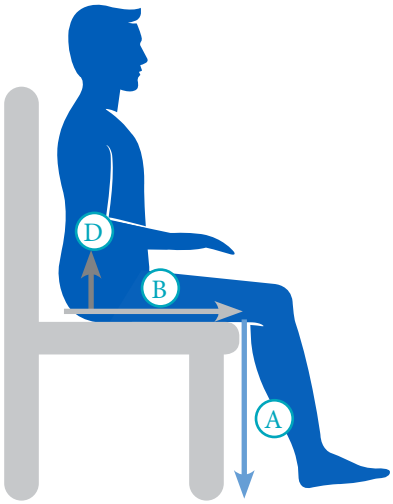
Additional Extras & Options

- Contoured or Waterfall Back
- Block Leg Rest
- Choice of Headrests
- Choice of Positioning Aids
- Tray
- Tailored Solutions



Taking Measurements





Every chair must be set up to fit its user, supporting posture appropriately and ensuring maximum contact with the support surface to distribute weight evenly whilst maintaining comfort and independence. Chair set-up influences positioning, which can consequently impact the risk of secondary complications, including postural deterioration, pressure injury and reduced quality of life.

Please refer to the Clinical Justification & Case Studies document for detailed information on assessment, prescription and clinical reasoning.

It is critical that the seating prescription and subsequent set-up are based on the individual's body shape and size determined during the seating assessment; if it is not, then it can cause more harm than good.

Taking Measurements

Ensure optimum sitting position before measuring. These are guidelines only as they will be affected by the client's size and shape and the functions and accessories prescribed.

A) Seat height - popliteal fossa to footrest/floor
B) Seat depth - back of the pelvis to the back of the knee minus approx. one inch (both left and right measured)
C) Seat width - hip width/two widest points plus up to 0.5 inch each side
D) Arm rest height - seat base to elbow (both left and right measured)
Back angle - dependent on hip range of movement
Seat angle - dependent on hip range of movement

MEASUREMENT	ADJUSTMENT RANGE	MEASUREMENT/SELECTION
Seat Depth	370mm - 510mm	
Seat Width	380/430/480mm	
Seat Height	400/440/480mm	

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 redistributed; 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.

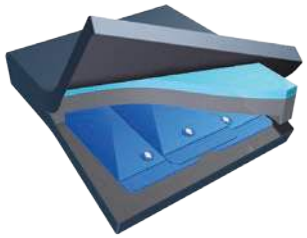
Everyone is potentially at risk of developing a pressure injury.[3] The impact of a pressure injury is profound, with individuals being affected physically, psychologically, socially, emotionally, spiritually, and financially.[4] Appropriate management or, better still, prevention can not only improve 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 HydroCare offers WaterCell Technology as standard, which provides a reliable and dynamic pressure care solution for people at medium to high risk of pressure injury. It enables the individual to achieve a stable and functional posture without compromising on pressure care and comfort. The water cells work by allowing the seat cushion to contour naturally and effectively around the body. Back Angle Recline can be utilised to redistribute pressure and promote comfort and relaxation. Vapour permeable fabrics are also available for all contact areas, if indicated.

1. Sprigle S, Sonenblum S (2011) Assessing evidence supporting redistribution of pressure for pressure ulcer prevention: A review ***Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development*** **48**(3):203-214
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 man-agement*** 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)

CUSHION TYPE	DESCRIPTION	IMAGE
CareFlex Watercell Technology (Standard)	Our WaterCell Technology provides a reliable and dynamic pressure care solution for people at medium to high risk of pressure injury.	

Postural Support

When an individual's ability to achieve good posture is affected, either through age, 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 HydroCare offers a range of functions and accessories to promote good postural support at all body segments, including pelvic stability and trunk support.

Back Angle Recline (BAR)

- Back Angle Recline adjusts the angle between the chair and seat back promoting comfort, relaxation and energy management for the user.
- Back Angle Recline can accommodate reduced range of movement at the hips, alleviating pain associated with the lower limbs, and reducing abdominal pressure.

BAR should be prescribed responsibly, ensuring that it is safe and appropriate for the user following a comprehensive posture and risk assessment; it can increase shear and friction forces if used incorrectly.

Three Seat Angle Options

- The ability to adjust the seat angle can promote pelvic stability and enhance feelings of safety within the chair.
- The risk of sacral sitting and sliding down the chair can be minimised.

Block Leg Rest (optional)

- The addition of a block leg rest can promote extra safety, security and comfort.
- It has a foam topper for basic pressure care.

Padded Sliding Footplate

- Insufficient foot support can negatively impact on postural stability and pressure risk; individuals naturally seek support through the feet to obtain the proprioceptive feedback required.
- A sliding footplate provides comfort and support to the feet, especially during portering.
- The addition of a shallow or deep footplate pillow can promote greater levels of comfort.

Interchangable Back Options

- Flat Back - The flat back option consists of a foam structured cushion with a mid-lumbar change of angle to fully support the back.

- Waterfall Back - The waterfall back option consists of a lumbar, thoracic and head section that encourages trunk alignment whilst promoting comfort. Wadding can be configured to accommodate kyphotic or lordotic postures to reduce the pressure at the apex of the curve and fully support the spine.

- Contoured Back - The contoured backrest promotes long-term comfort and pressure distribution via simple conforming support to the lower back in both sitting upright and in a reclined position. It provides gentle lateral support for the upper trunk and centralises the posture with contoured pads whilst allowing movement. This may be indicated for users who present with limited sitting ability due to weakness, abnormal muscle tone or fatigue.

Postural Support

TYPE	ADJUSTMENT RANGE	SELECTION
Back Angle Recline	100° to 130° (30° range)	
Seat Angle	10°/15°/20°	

Clinical Notes

Most Common Accessories

We have a range of accessories and options. See the price list for a full list of accessories available.

CUSHION TYPE	DESCRIPTION	IMAGE	SELECT
Waterfall Back	• Consists of a lumbar and thoracic section • Encourages trunk alignment while managing pressure and comfort		☐
Contoured Back	• Provides gentle lateral feedback and support for the trunk • Centralises the posture with contoured pads		☐
Flat Back	• Flat back foam cushion offers comfort. • Mid-lumbar change of angle to fully support the back		☐
Block Leg Rest	• Promote extra safety, security and comfort • It has a foam topper for basic pressure care		☐
Soft Headrest	• A comfortable rectangular pillow to support the head • 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 • Available in shallow and deep		☐ Shallow ☐ Deep
Neck Headrest	• Has a deep profile to give greater lateral control		☐
Padded Pelvic Belt*	• Intervention for anterior pelvic stabilisation • Safety belt when portering clients • Padded for extra comfort		☐
Pelvic Belt*	• Intervention for anterior pelvic stabilisation • Safety belt when portering clients		☐
Tray	• Assists upper limb support • Offers platform for activities		☐

*All belts and harnesses must be prescribed, implemented and monitored responsibly following a comprehensive assessment of posture and risk. Please see Device safety information alert for further information: www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/all-posture-or-safety-belts-fitted-to-supportive-seating-wheelchairs-hoists-and-bathroom-equipment-risk-of-serious-injury-or-death

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