perm_obil

Let your voice be heard in support of power seat elevation

We know that wheelchair mobility is more than just moving from one point to another. Vertical movement is also necessary for people to function and participate. Power seat elevation helps by putting the world within reach in so many ways! Let's help make it more accessible for even more wheelchair users.

Share your story with CMS before March 17 to show why seat elevation should be funded on power wheelchairs. **Click here** and follow these five simple steps:

- 1. Provide your name and contact info.
- 2. Let them know you support their proposal in providing power seat elevation for people with mobility impairments.
- 3. Thank them for giving the wheelchair community a chance to share their stories.
- 4. Then share your experience with how power seat elevation has made a difference in your life, or the life of your client. Be sure to include specific examples of the health and functional benefits of having seat elevation around the home (see below).
- 5. Encourage Medicare to quickly approve the coverage of power seat elevation to ensure that wheelchair users can access the care they need.

Are you a clinician, provider, or caregiver? Your comments can help too! We need you to share specific examples of where you have seen your clients benefit from power seat elevation, and how you have seen elevation change a client's life for the better.

Here are some suggested talking points:

- CMS needs to know this is more than just about doing transfers.
- Seat elevation is also key for activities of daily living (ADLs), including reaching for things, promoting independence, and improving their line of sight.
- Use examples of the health benefits for end users with seat elevation:
 - o reduces the risk of repetitive stress injuries
 - o helps decrease and manage pain caused by overhead reaching
 - \circ reduces neck pain associated with frequently looking up at people/things
 - \circ improves mental health and stimulation thanks to the benefits of direct eye contact
 - o provides psycho-social benefits by being on peer level
 - improves engagement and self-esteem
- Use examples of the functional benefits of having seat elevation at home:
 - o self-care and dressing
 - o toileting/bathing
 - cooking/feeding
 - o household chores and safety (ie. laundry, accessing light switches/thermostats)
 - o access to kitchen cupboards, appliances, and raised counters

Join us in submitting your comments today. Don't wait!