

# Evaluating Bath Equipment

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# Medical Literature

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- 50% of bathroom falls occur during toilet and shower transfers
- 80% result in injury (Aminzadeh,2000)
  
- No literature on medical necessity for bathing

# Medical Justifications

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- ◉ Accommodate for mobility limitations
- ◉ Skin Integrity
- ◉ Positioning for bowel/bladder management
- ◉ Spasticity management
- ◉ Safety/ falls prevention

# Insurance Reimbursement

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- No Medicare coverage
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Insurance
- MN Medical Assistance
- Waiver funds
- Private pay
- Loan programs

# Assessment

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- Demographics
- Medical needs
- Equipment history
- Functional Skills
- Environment

# Demographics

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- Age
- Height
- Weight
- Diagnosis

# Medical Needs

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- Pressure sores
- Seizures
- Spasticity
- Range of motion limitations
- Postural control
- Head control
- Spinal deformities

# Equipment History

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- Evaluation of existing equipment
- Age and style of existing equipment
- Why it's not working
- How equipment is being used
  - Toileting needs
  - How often
  - Duration of use

# Functional Skills

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- Level of independence with bathing
- Toileting
- Transfers
  - Seat to floor height
  - Location of transfer

# Environment

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- In-home evaluation when possible
- Size of bathroom
- Size of tub/shower area
- Doorway widths
- Toilet clearance

# Home Modifications

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- Grab bars
- Non-slip surfaces
- Floor to ceiling poles
- Hand-held showers
- Home renovations
  - Roll-in shower
  - Tub with door
  - Ceiling lift





# Equipment Options

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- ◉ Tub transfer benches
- ◉ Bath chairs
- ◉ Bath lifts
- ◉ Static shower chairs
- ◉ Rolling shower chairs
- ◉ Shower gurneys

# Tub Transfer Bench

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- Seating surface above water level
- Used with hand-held showerhead
- Improved safety with level transfer surface



# Bath Chairs



Leckey

- Allow supported seating at water level
- Fixed back, tilt, or recline
- Spasticity and pain management
- Hygiene
- Transfer considerations



Duralife



Rifton



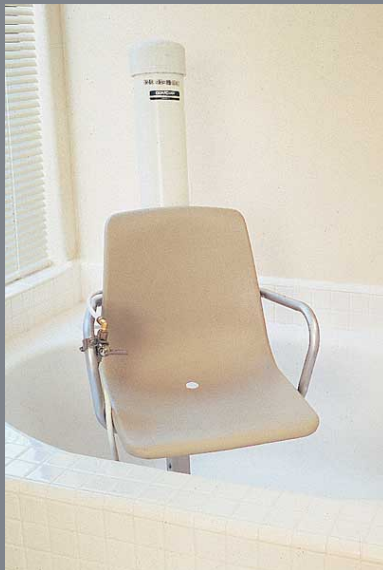
Columbia

# BathLifts

- Transfer assist
- Hydraulic or battery power
- Fixed or reclining back



Aquatec



Invacare



Bathmaster

# Static Shower Chairs

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- Decreased standing balance or endurance
- Back support, height adjustability



# Rolling Shower Chairs

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- ◉ Fixed back
- ◉ Tilting
- ◉ Self-propelling
- ◉ Commode options
- ◉ Transfer outside of bathroom
- ◉ Need roll-in shower space

# Fixed Back



Invacare Mariner



Activeaid



IPU

Aquatec Ocean



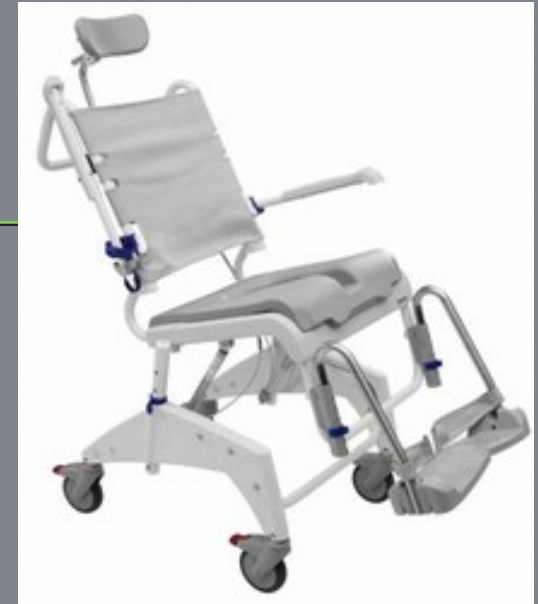
Anthros



# Tilting

- Decreased trunk control
- Positioning assist for transfers

Aquatec  
Ocean  
VIP



Duralife



Activeaid

# Self-propelling

- Independent mobility
- Independent hygiene
- Environmental considerations

Anthros



Invacare Mariner



Activeaid

# Other equipment

## BATH CHAIRS WITH ROLLING BASE

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## SLIDING TRANSFER CHAIR

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Duraglide

# Shower gurneys

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- Need for supine positioning
- Cares occur at the waist height of the caregiver



# DME Role

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- Insurance submission/paperwork requirements
- Knowledge of equipment options
- Home assessment
- Equipment trials

# Resources

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- ◉ Goodwill Easter Seals, St. Paul: loan equipment 651-379-5808
- ◉ DHS website: Authorization request for Bath/Shower/Toileting Equipment
- ◉ Manufacturer websites
- ◉ [cmcmillin@gillettechildrens.com](mailto:cmcmillin@gillettechildrens.com)