

## **Safety Guide**

## **Shower Commode**

**Important Note**: These instructions are general information only and do not take into account your specific circumstance. These instructions are to be used in conjunction with the information provided by your health professional. Do not exceed the Maximum User Weight specified by the manufacturer. If you are unsure on how to use or fit a piece of equipment, please contact your Health Professional.

# **Safety Information and Precautions**

- A shower commode is a piece of equipment with castors designed for use in the shower and over the toilet. It is typically used by individuals who are unable to independently transfer or mobilise to use a standard toilet or shower chair.
- The chair has an open seat and can come with a removable pan for waste. The shower commode is on castors so can be rolled over the toilet or into a shower for use. It is intended to help the user maintain their independence and dignity while performing daily hygiene tasks or assist carers with transfers and care tasks
- Shower commodes can only be used in accessible/ level access showers. If your shower has a hob or track a shower commode will not be appropriate, discuss a ShowerBuddy SB1 or SB2t with your allied health professional instead.

## There are three common types of commodes:

- **Self-propel** has bigger back wheels and the user can propel themselves.
- **Transit/attendant propelled** comes with 4 castors with brakes and the user is pushed by a carer.
- Tilt Shower Commode tilts to provide extra pressure reduction and comfort, which can assist users who are unable to shift or maintain their posture, or can assist carers with better positioning.

#### **How To Use a Shower Commode**

- Position the shower commode as close to where the user is transferring from (ie: the bed or wheelchair). Ensure you have enough space to make the transfer safely, these are usually done outside the bathroom or toilet where there is more room.
- 2. Make sure that the commode is on a level surface and that the brakes are engaged to prevent the chair from moving whenever the user is being transferred on or off the commode.
- 3. When sat in the commode ideally knees should be level with hips (approximately 90 degree angle) and feet should make full contact with the footrest.
- 4. If being used over the toilet ensure the pan is removed underneath so commode is able to be



rolled over the toilet.

- 5. Move the commode over to toilet or into the shower so self-care tasks can be completed.
- 6. Ensure when tasks are completed that the commode is again wheeled as close as possible to where the user will be transferred.
- 7. Ensure commode is wiped down before being stored
- It is important to note that before using any medical equipment it is always recommended to consult with a healthcare professional and read the manufacturer's instructions and user guide.

### **Precautions and Safety**

- Ensure that the over toilet aid is stable, all four feet on the floor and cannot slide.
- Ensure that the toilet paper and toiletries are easily reached.

### **Maintenance and Cleaning**

- Please check the product label / user manual for specific cleaning instructions.
- Should the equipment appear damaged, DO NOT USE. It may require replacing.

**Disclaimer:** This product safety information sheet is provided for general guidance only and does not replace the manufacturer's user manual or specific safety protocols recommended by the manufacturer. Always adhere to local safety regulations and the manufacturer's recommendations for maintenance, inspection, and operation. Failure to follow proper procedures and obtain appropriate training may result in injury or damage to the equipment.