



Standard Number	
Effective Date	

Interprofessional Practice and Clinical Standards

- Policy
 Guideline
 Protocol
 Procedure
 Documentation

Professional Responsible/For Use By:

Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy

Title: Seating/ Mobility Assessment Documentation Standard

Indications:

- A. The purpose of this Seating/Mobility Assessment Documentation Standard is to provide a format to document assessment results and a framework to analyze those results when recommending seating/mobility equipment for purchase, long-term use and/or for complex clients.
- B. **Assessment Requirements:** This Seating/ Mobility Assessment has been modularized to allow for flexibility with prescribing seating/ mobility devices for different purposes. Please see the decision tree on page 2 to ensure that the appropriate sections of the Seating/ Mobility Procedure and Documentation Standard are being used. Write N/A on the assessment form if there are boxes not applicable to the client – i.e. position in current seating system - if they do not already have a seating system.

For example, when prescribing a manual wheelchair for transportation purposes, look on the decision tree. Note that the only sections of the Seating/ Mobility Assessment Documentation form a therapist needs to use to document the prescription process for a transport wheelchair are: Section 1 - General Information and Client Goals; Section 5 – Analysis and Recommendations, and Section 6 – Outcomes. Section 2 only needs to be done if the therapist does not already have an assessment on the chart (such as an Initial Assessment) that takes into account the client’s functional abilities in relation to wheelchair use – transfers, environment, transportation, etc. **Relevant, current assessment information already in the client record does not need to be duplicated. This information must be referenced on the General Information and Client Goals form – Section 1.**

- C. Goals must be based on functional issues. Use your clinical judgment.

Care Outcomes:

- To achieve a standardized seating assessment process for seating/mobility prescription that:
- Is evidence based; is client centered; and promotes consistency of care within VIHA.
 - Supports practitioner competency.
 - Reduces repeat funding of equipment.
 - Ensures best equipment match to meet client need

Definitions:

Long Term Use: use of seating/mobility equipment for more than 6 months.
 Complex clients: have multiple functional and physical issues requiring custom and/or customized commercial seating/mobility equipment.
Relevant Implications: These are the “So What??” areas on the form where the therapist notes issues to be considered when choosing seating and mobility equipment, i.e. if a client does a standing pivot transfer and you have noted the optimal seat to floor height, this is a “Relevant Implication” for the equipment choice OR if your client travels by accessible van, you need to be aware of the limitations of the van lift with respect to weight and size of mobility device.

Decision Tree for Documenting Required Sections of Seating and Mobility Assessment

