ASPREX Fact Sheet

Static shower chair

Chair with a tubular frame consisting of four legs and a seat with backrest, which enables users to shower / engage in a hygiene routine when seated. It comes in various sizes to fit individual users. Materials are waterproof, such as rustproof metal, rigid plastic, plastic webbing or padded polyurethane. The structure includes non-slip feet (for grip and stability in wet conditions) and armrests.

Possible variants include the seat (which can be just a stool without back support), the legs (which can be also adjustable in height) and the armrests (which may be detachable or absent).

Product Classification

- o APL (WHO Assistive Product Priority List): 6 (Chairs for shower/bath/toilet)
- o ISO 9999:2022: 093307 (Shower chairs with and without wheels)

Possible configuration variants

- o Pediatric size.
- o Bariatric size.

Possible accessories or optional components

- o Back support.
- o Padding (on seat or back support).
- o Armrests (fixed, reclining or swing away).

Product goals

Activities or functions the product is mainly intended to support, according to WHO ICF Classification:

o Washing oneself [d510].

Indicated impairments

Difficulties the product is mainly intended to address, according to the WHO ICF Classification:

- o Maintaining body position [d415] (difficulty in standing to shower or wash).
- o Changing body position [d410].
- o Walking [d450].
- Respiration functions [b440].
- Heart functions [b410].

Contraindicated impairments

Difficulties for which the product may be inappropriate:

- o Difficulty in transferring independently to a seating position.
- o Inadequate dynamic sitting balance.

Indicated environments

Specific environments in which the product should be used:

- Shower recesses.
- o Bathrooms.

Contraindicated environments

Environments in which the product may be inappropriate: None specified.

Other indicated factors

Other factors or situations the product is intended to address:

O Use by children. Only if used with variants: Pediatric size.

O Use by people with obesity. Only if used with variants: Bariatric size.

Other contraindicated factors

Other factors or situations in which the product may be inappropriate: None specified.

Points to be considered in product selection

- The product should be able to withstand conditions expected in a domestic bathroom such as warm water, humidity.
- o It should be used on a smooth floor surface.
- o Bariatric sized seats for obese users must have a suitable weight capacity.
- o Pediatric sized seats feature a height for children and may have curved 'potty style' seat and backrest combinations to support a child during hygiene routines.
- Height adjustable legs on the shower stool or chair enable the overall height to be adjusted to the highest possible setting while still ensuring the user has their feet flat on the ground when seated.
- o In sloped shower recesses, leg adjustments can be uneven to accommodate changing height of the surface.
- The rear legs can be adjusted 1–3 inches higher than the front legs (creating forward rake) to provide mechanical advantage to the user in raising and lowering themselves, as they will be sitting on a forward slope.
- o Raised armrest may be needed for ease of on/off transfers.
- o Users may require support to transfer off/on the chair and for hygiene (cleaning and drying).
- Shower stools have a smaller footprint (less depth) and may be easier to place in narrow shower recesses.

Points to be considered in product fitting

None specified.

Points to be considered in product use

None specified.

- Points to be considered in product maintenance / follow-up
 - o Consumers and caregivers need to appropriately clean and maintain and safely repair parts of the shower stool or chair according to written instructions.
 - Refurbishing any upholstered parts and replacing any rusted parts may be required as part of periodic maintenance.

Examples of products available on the market

o Live product search in the EASTIN website https://www.eastin.eu/en/searches/products/list?iso=093307

Source

This Fact Sheet was compiled in 2021 by an international team of experts, to provide the initial knowledge base for a project ("An online system to assist the selection of assistive product") supported by the World Health Organization in 2020-2021 within the GATE Initiative (Global collaboration on Assistive Product). Fact Sheets were compiled for each of the 50 types of products included in the WHO APL (Assistive Product Priority List).

The team was composed of Renzo Andrich (Italy, group leader), Natasha Layton (Australia), Stefan von Prondzinski (Italy), Jerry Weisman (USA), Silvana Contepomi (Argentina) and Hasan Minto (Pakistan).

The project led to a prototype online tool called ASPREX (ASSistive PRoduct EXplorer). At the end of the project, it was transferred to a WHO collaborating center (the Global Disability Hub in the UK), in view of possible future developments.