

## CLINICAL RATIONALE/JUSTIFICATION FOR SEAT ELEVATION AND ANTERIOR TILT (ACTIVE REACH)

This information is only a guide. Permobil recommends that a clinician experienced in seating and mobility be consulted to determine if these features are appropriate for the user's particular needs. Permobil provides this information to assist prescribing therapists. Each client should be considered as an individual with specific clinical needs based upon individual assessment.

### **Client medical needs/presentation:**

Client presents with limited strength/weakness of the upper extremities  
Client presents with limitations to range of motion of the upper extremity joints  
Client presents with decreased endurance/fatigue  
Client presents with fluctuations in muscle tone/spasticity  
Client presents with risk of skin and tissue breakdown  
Client presents with high risk of upper extremity overuse injury  
Client has a history of repetitive strain injury (rotator cuff, carpal tunnel syndrome)  
Client has postural deformities/postural instability  
Client reports pain during reach or when looking upwards (cervical extension)  
Client transfers laterally to varying heights  
Client performs Sit to Stand, Squat to Pivot, Standing transfer (with or without assist)  
Client has communication limitations (speech, hearing, visual)

### **Product requirements:**

Client requires the seat to raise to reach items at higher levels.  
Client requires the seat to raise to access areas within their environment at higher levels.  
Client requires seat to raise to varying heights to enhance safety and independence in transfers.  
Client requires seat to raise to decrease muscle strain in reaching upward and looking upward (excessive cervical extension).  
Client requires seat to tilt forward to reach items at higher levels and in front of themselves: functional reach. (i.e. fridge, cupboard, sink over counter, center of a table/desk).  
Client requires seat to tilt forward to manage tone and spasticity.  
Client requires seat to tilt forward to provide improved postural control during forward reach activities.  
Client requires the seat to tilt forward to provide enhanced sitting balance and stability.  
Client requires seat to tilt forward to provide lower front seat to floor height to improve access under tables/desks.  
Client requires the seat to raise and tilt forward to enhance independence during self-care tasks such as toileting, catheterization in a semi standing position to decrease incidence of Urinary Tract Infection.  
Client requires the seat to raise and tilt forward to enhance independence during home safety/access reaching tasks.  
Client requires the seat to raise and/or tilt forward to varying levels for enhanced vision, communication and interaction with others and the environment.  
Client requires the seat to raise and tilt forward to enhance line of sight and enhance safety in operating the wheelchair.  
Client requires seat to raise and tilt forward to access items in a forward facing position rather than rotating sideways to reach.

**Seat elevation and Anterior Tilt (Active Reach) assist in meeting the above client needs.**



### **References:**

Letter of Medical Necessity Generator (LMN Generator)  
[https://www.permobilmn.com/Term\\_Search\\_list.php?criteria=or](https://www.permobilmn.com/Term_Search_list.php?criteria=or)

RESNA Position on the Application of Seat-Elevating Devices for Wheelchair Users; [www.resna.org](http://www.resna.org)

Stavness, C. (2006). The Effect of Positioning for Children with Cerebral Palsy on Upper Extremity Function: A review of the Evidence. *Physical & Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics*, Vol 26(3).

<https://permobil.ca/activereach/>