

Demonstration of the Configura Chair
by Accora Tel: 01954 214040 Email: www.accora.uk.com

The company Accora started off as seating specialists but found selling specialist chairs meant that they were difficult to reuse. As a consequence they worked for two years trying to design a chair that fell between a standard specification and that of a 'specialist' chair and they came up with the Configura chair.

The Configura allows for the changing needs of the user – having the ability to configure the size, pressure and posture means the chair can be used for many different user requirements. It is particularly aimed at equipment stores as the chair can be easily re-used. The chair can accommodate moderate postural requirements but is not suitable for users that lean to one side heavily or have fixtures such as pronounced 'wind sweeping' or 'pelvic obliquity'. It is suitable for neurological conditions and for those with reduced sitting balance, for progressive conditions and for those with skeletal issues, such as kyphosis.

The Configura is available in three sizes, small - 20 stone, medium - 25 stone and large - 25 stone. All three sizes can be increased in seat height by 2" and decreased in seat depth by 2". As a consequence, three chairs can be turned into 12 different sizes.

To increase the height of the chair, it needs to be tilted on its side and the standard feet removed to be replaced by a height adjustment kit (these are clearly identified on the Configura assessment form).

N.B. The company use a small wheeled transfer board to help with this process. They would be able to advise the equipment store if need be.

The length of the leg rest can also be altered by undoing the overlay and moving the top board underneath, which is Velcroed by 2". The overlay can then be replaced.

Seat depth can be altered by removing the back section and inserting a wedge or 'depth adjustment kit' and then reattaching the overlay.

Tilting space comes as standard with the chair. All parts are made within the U.K except for the upholstery which is imported from Europe. The availability for the product is 5 days.

Pressure Management

Adding a pressure cushion to a chair is not always the answer. With the Configura, the overlay can be removed from under the seat base and folded out of the way. The cushion can be removed and replaced with a new cushion of choice, with the overlay being replaced. The internal cushion that comes as standard with the product, is medium risk foam on top of a standard base. If a service user is more at risk of pressure damage, the company can provide an air stream cushion (looks rather like a Roho, with a pump) and this need to be set up for the service user. If however, this did not take place, at least the client would have something to sit on. The air flow works on a side to side basis, via the pump, to prevent the person being moved forwards on the seat. The pump has an on/off setting, with a dial to set the weight limit. The company recommend that the pump be placed on the floor. If a clinician

wishes to use their own cushion in the seat, the company will work with the equipment service to do this.

Posture

The Configura has two options for posture management.

1. Multi adjustable pillow back rest – standard. Each pillow is height adjustable and the filling can be customised to the user.
2. Lateral support back rest. This encourages a mid line sitting position so suitable for service users who require increased lateral support. This option adds £75.00 = pressure relief inside.

The cushion can be removed from the back rest and is secured in place by Velcro tabs. The cushions and depth adjustment kit can be moved up and down, the Velcro tabs to accommodate different postural requirements.

It is important that all cushions are firmly fixed on the Velcro tabs before use. The filling can be removed from the multi-adjustable pillow back rest (fig.1) by unzipping the pillow. Using a pair of scissors, open the sealed bag inside and remove some of the padding. Remember not to remove too much as it may take several weeks for the padded back to mould to the user. Filling should not be removed from the lateral support back rest.

(fig.2) when removing cushions, fold the Velcro flaps on the cushions back onto the cushion so that filling and dust does not get caught in the Velcro. Extra wedges of foam can be inserted into the back, to one side if need be. The chair is designed to move with an individual as their condition changes.

N.B. An alternative head support is currently being designed.

Tilting Space

This feature comes as standard with the chair and contributes to the pressure management of the user. The pelvis is made stable by the tilt in space and a good mid line posture is encouraged by the back rest.

There is the option for the chair to have either a dual motor (the legs will not come up so high) or a 3 motor.

Adjusting the Rise Angle of the Chair

On the Configura medium and large, it is possible for the angle of the lift to be altered via three settings 10°, 20° or 30°. This alteration needs to be carried out via a technician.

Assessment training for an Equipment Store or for Clinicians is available.

Handset

Is simple in design using colour contrast buttons and fits through a loop in the chair and takes 20 seconds to swap it from left to right.

The fabric and foam of the chair is Crib Five Anti Micro, machine washable and waterproof fabric is available.

Extra Notes

If a hoist is being used for care, it is better to be positioned from the side of the chair, if there is room allowance.

A min-lift can be used successfully with the Configura as it can be moved in closely to the chair.

The chair can be adjusted retrospectively and changed after two weeks following delivery.

When a chair comes back into the store – every contact area can be replaced separately.

Back rest x 2

Back rest without cushions i.e. – if there is a tear on the back, damaged against a wall.

Base

Overlay

Arm rest can be removed – single or both

For a new arm cover £15.00

For a whole side piece £120 - £150, these are easy to replace with five screws. Most chairs on the market have twenty five screws which take more time to replace.

There is an interactive form which can be branded as 'Medequip' or 'Derbyshire'.

Assessment Help Line 01954 214070

The company offer a free three month loan.

J. M. Green
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