

Guide for EMS Assessors

Notes to the PWC Specification Form

2 February 2016

The notes below are intended to act as a reference guide to assist when completing the Power Wheelchair Script Form.

Electronics:

- 'Standard' (aka non expandable) electronics typically have a basic controller and up to 2 power functions. Suited to users who require a simple chair or may have difficulty managing or understanding expandable electronics / controller.
- Expandable electronics allow for multiple power functions; the main controller typically has a screen, allows for use of additional or different controllers (e.g., attendant control, mini joystick, head array). Suited to users who require multiple power functions and can be considered for those with a progressive condition.

User weight: If the client weighs over 100kg, an accurate weight is required to ensure they receive a chair with a suitable user weight limit.

Seat to Floor height: Please note different chairs have different seat to floor height ranges, and addition of power functions can impact on this. If no specific seat to floor height is requested, the chair will be set at approximately 18" (+/- 1"). Please consider the users transfer technique and seat to footplate height when specifying seat to floor height.

Seat to footplate height: This is required to ensure the correct leg hangers are used on the chair. Please remember to allow for the cushion when specifying seat to footplate length.

Overall width: If a specific overall width is required, rationale needs to be provided for this. (Add to the request for EMS Advice document or 'other requirements' section on the script form)

Back support: Chairs with tilt require a solid back support; if a basic solid back is required, please indicate this on the specification form.

Other requirements: This is to request any particular features or modifications required to the trial chair that are not included in the PWC script form. Please do not include back, cushion or additional accessories (other than pelvic positioning belt) in this section; these are to be requested in the RTL Request.

Manual chair: A basic manual back up chair can be provided; if a scripted chair is required then EMS Advice needs to be sought. This needs to be requested separately in the RTL request.

Panel Supply Power Wheelchair Categories

Power wheelchairs have been identified in specific categories A-G
See below:

Category		Drive wheel size	Electronics	Features
A	(RWD – standard electronics)	12”	Standard	Sling upholstery is standard No power functions
B	(RWD – expandable electronics)	14”	Expandable	Larger base size compared to Cat A Power functions available
C	(MWD / FWD - 10” drive wheel, expandable electronics)	10”	Expandable	Multiple power function options
D	(MWD / FWD - 14” drive wheel, standard electronics)	14”	Standard	1-2 power functions available User friendly controller
E	(MWD / FWD - 14” drive wheel, expandable electronics)	14”	Expandable	Multiple power function options Drive tracking is an option
F	(Heavy Duty 130-180kg or heavy user)	14”	Expandable	User weight limit 130-180kg Suitable for users whose previous chairs have needed significant and ongoing maintenance – ‘heavy user’ (discuss with EMS Advice) RWD or MWD options available
G	(Non-Panel)	-	-	Chairs outside of panel supply options

Specific suppliers and chair models are not provided as these are subject to change.

Chair options within each category can be discussed with the EMS Advice team if required.

Request for EMS Advice Guidelines

When do I need to seek Professional Advice? (Yes = EMS Advice is required)

Category		WMPML1	WMPML2
A	(RWD – standard electronics)	Base only - No Base & seating - Yes	Mandatory - No
B	(RWD – expandable electronics)	Yes	One power function & seating - No Two or more power functions & seating - Yes
C	(MWD / FWD - 10" drive wheel, expandable electronics)	Yes	One power function and seating - No Two or more power functions and seating - Yes
D	(MWD / FWD - 14" drive wheel, standard electronics)	Yes	One power function and seating - No Two or more power functions and seating - Yes
E	(MWD / FWD - 14" drive wheel, expandable electronics)	Yes	One power function and seating - No Two or more power functions and seating - Yes
F	(Heavy Duty 130-180kg or heavy user)	Yes	One power function and seating - No Two or more power functions and seating - Yes
G	(Non-Panel)	Yes	Yes

Note: See 'Consultation with an EMS Advisor' document at <http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/disability-services/contracting-and-working-disability-support-services/equipment-and-modification-services/prioritisation-tool-resources/consultation-decision-making-and-complaints-processes>