

ProForm NX™

Introduction

The purpose of this case study is to compare the functional seating properties of the VARILITE ProForm NX wheelchair cushion to the Sunrise Medical Jay[®] XtremeTM wheelchair cushion.

Product Background

The ProForm NX is comprised of a rigid foam base under an adjustable Air-Foam Floatation cushion, with two separate chambers for accommodating or correcting a pelvic asymmetry. The Jay Xtreme is a low profile seat wheelchair cushion comprised of foam with a gel pad for pressure relief under the pelvic area.

Case History

Client's name (pseudonym): Jim

Rehab professional's name & credentials: Dan Eilerman, PT

Pertinent medical history:

- Diagnosis Clear cell chondrosarcoma of the right pelvis
- Status post right hemipelvectomy 1996

Age: 71

Age at onset: 62

Gender: Male

Subjective Exam

Jim is seeking a new seat cushion because his Jay Xtreme cushion, which he has had for 9 years, began leaking gel. He would like a cushion that is more comfortable, provides better positioning, and allows him to propel his chair better. He propels his wheelchair with both upper extremities and left lower extremity. Jim lives with his wife and is independent in his activities of daily living. He works outside the home sanding furniture at a furniture manufacturer. He is able to drive his car without assistive devices.



Physical Exam

Jim sits on his Jay Xtreme cushion with an obvious pelvic obliquity lower on his right side. His right shoulder is lower, and his right lower thoracic spine has a scoliosis with the apex to the right. He also sits with a slumped posture with little or no lumbar lordosis.



Intervention

Jim was seated on a fully inflated ProForm NX cushion, where he still presented with a significant pelvic obliquity. The ProForm NX was then adjusted by letting more air out of the left chamber of the pelvic cushion as compared to the right in order to accommodate his right sided obliquity.



Results

Objectively, Jim sits symmetrically on the ProForm NX. His shoulders are of equal height, and his thoracic spine no longer has a scoliosis. He is also sitting more upright with a good lumbar lordosis. Subjectively, Jim said, "this is the first time I've been able to sit straight in my wheelchair. I feel more comfortable, and I am able to propel my chair much more easily now that I am sitting straighter."

