

UGO LTD

## Instruction Manual

# Esteem Heavy Duty Bariatric Self Propelled Steel Wheelchair



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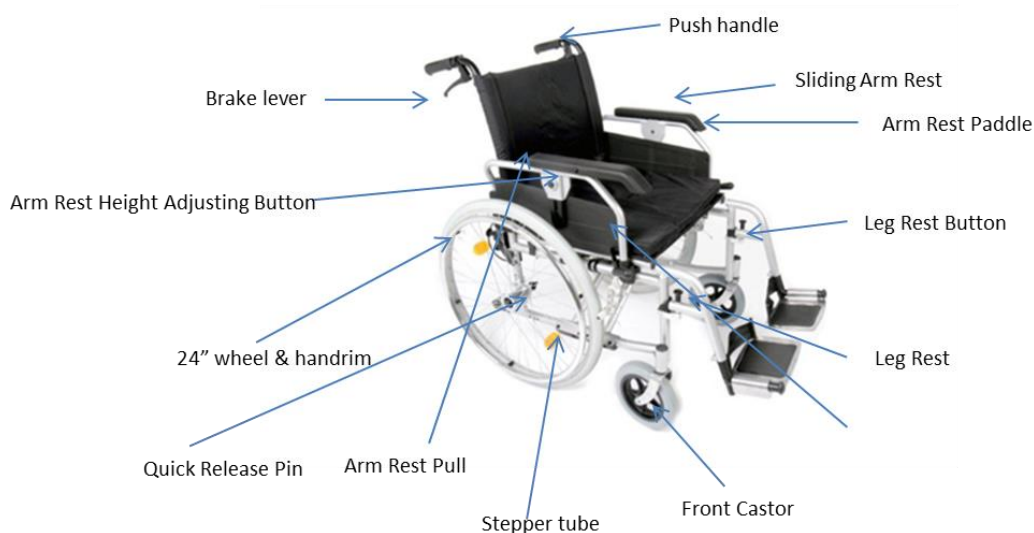
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## Introduction

The Ugo Esteem Bariatric wheelchair is designed for occasional or frequent use, and can be used indoors and outdoors. The wheelchair is designed for a single user and is available in 4 widths: 20", 22", 24" and 26". The wheelchair is available in either a transit or self propel model.

The wheelchair can be manually moved in forward and reverse and is propelled either by the wheelchair user or a carer, depending upon the model of wheelchair in use.

## Parts description



*Photo shows the Self Propel Version but it is also available in Transit Version*

## Leg rest adjustment

For optimum comfort it is important to attain the correct leg position. The footrests have been designed so that they can be extended. Unscrew the Allen Head Grub screw on the side of the silver tubing. Adjust the leg rest as required then reattach the Allen Head Grub Screw to secure.

To attach the leg rests, slot the leg rest into the tubing on the frame and then swing the leg rest until it locks into position.

Leg rests will swing in or out to reduce the length of the wheelchair. Pull up Leg rest Button lever whilst rotating the leg rest. To remove, simply pull up the leg rest when swung out at an angle of approximately 45%

## Arm Rest Adjustment

For comfort the arm rest will flip up and the arm pad itself can be adjusted for length and height and the arm rest is also removable.

To flip up the arm rest, lift up the front of the armrest whilst pushing the armrest paddle.

To adjust the length of the arm pad push in the black button on the side of arm rest and slide arm pad to required position. To adjust the height push in height adjustment button whilst adjusting the height.

To remove the armrest, first of all flip it up, as above and then pull the armrest pull whilst pulling the arm rest from the receiver.



## Using the stepper tube

An attendant can use the stepper tube to raise the front castor (when mounting a kerb for example). To use, push down on the stepper tube with a foot. Do not raise the front castors by pushing down on the push handles as this could result in damage to the wheelchair.

To mount a kerb. Approach the kerb head on. Then the attendant uses the stepper tube to raise the front castors, and lowers the front castors on the raised kerb. Finally the attendant should push the wheelchair forward, lifting it up slightly to mount the kerb if required.

To go down a kerb. Line up the front castor with the edge of the kerb. The attendant uses the stepper tube to raise the front castors and tip the user slightly back. Keeping the castors raised, slowly lower the wheelchair down the kerb.

## Brake operation

### Parking brakes

To apply the parking brakes, push the handle on the brake unit until locked in place. To release the brake, push the handle in the opposite direction. The brakes should always be applied when the wheelchair is stationary.

### Cable brakes

On the transit and self propel models, cable brakes are fitted, the attendant pushing the wheelchair may use the cable operated brake to slow or park the wheelchair. To apply the brakes, squeeze the large lever on the push handles and the brakes will be applied until the levers are released. Ensure both levers are pulled simultaneously to ensure the wheelchair travels in a straight line.

## Disassembly and storage

**Quick Release Wheel:** On both models, the rear wheels can be removed. To remove the rear wheel, push the button in the centre of the wheel hub and slide the wheel from its axle. To replace carry out reverse procedure but ensure that the wheel is secure in place.

**Leg Rests:** Follow the previous instructions to remove or swing out the leg rests

**Arm Rests:** Follow the previous instructions to remove or swing out the leg rests

**Folding the wheelchair:** Grab the centre of the front and rear edges of the seat sling. Pull upwards on the seat sling and the wheelchair should naturally fold up.

**IMPORTANT:** *The wheelchair has not been tested as a seat in a motor vehicle. Users should always transfer to the vehicle's seat and the wheelchair should be safely stowed away.*

Quick Release Button



## Operation and propulsion

Before using the wheelchair read the safety notices below:

- Use slow speeds on gradients. Do not exceed the maximum gradient stated.
- The wheelchair is only suitable for single occupancy.
- Keep your feet on the footplates when moving. Do not stand on the footplates.
- Do not use escalators.

- Do not reverse down a gradient
- Maintain proper balance at all times. Users should not move their centre of gravity out of the seating area.
- Do not reach for items further than your arm will extend.
- Be aware of hazards in your environment, such as narrow doorways, steps, household appliances, children's toys etc.
- We recommend you consult your healthcare professional for advice about transferring to and from the wheelchair. The parking brakes should always be applied when transferring.
- Ensure that fingers and objects do not get caught in the spokes of the rear wheels.

The transit wheelchair can only be propelled by an attendant. The attendant should push the wheelchair from behind using the handgrips, and following the safety advice above.

The self propel wheelchair can be propelled by an attendant (as directed above) or the wheelchair user. The users can propel themselves by pushing on the hand rims attached to the side of the rear wheels, and slow themselves down by applying pressure to the hand rims.

When stationary the brakes should always be applied.

### Using the lap belt

A lap belt is to restrain the wheelchair occupant during normal use. The lap belt is not to be used as a seat belt in a motor vehicle. Under no circumstance should the Travel Chair be used as a seat in a motor vehicle (e.g. cars, buses, trains, etc). Lap belts are available as an option on the wheelchairs.

The lap belt should be adjusted to suit each user. The length of the belt can be adjusted by the tri-glides (as shown in the diagram). The lap belt has a luggage style large locking clip to fasten and unfasten the lap belt. To fasten the lap belt, push the clip in to the receiver until it locks in the position (which can be heard by an audible click).

When fastened, the lap belt should be tight around the user's pelvis without causing discomfort or undue pressure. The will help keep the user's hips and pelvis towards the back of the wheelchair. Use the tri-glides (shown) to adjust the length of the lap belt. The length of the lap belt should be checked each time the belt is used.

There is a risk of suffocation from users "submarining" (where they slide down the chair until the lap belt is around the neck area). To reduce the risk of this, ensure that the lap belt if used under supervision and is used as instructed.

The lap belt may not be suitable for all users of wheelchairs. Seek professional medical advice before using the lap belt.

## Care and maintenance

- Before each use of the wheelchair, the brakes and tyres should be checked.
- The wheelchair should be stored in a dry environment, away from direct sunlight. When in storage the wheelchair can be folded up.
- The wheelchair should be kept clean and dust free. This can be done with a duster or damp cloth.
- The user should routinely check the following items. It is recommended that a Drive Medical Dealer service the wheelchair annually, where these items should be repaired, replaced and/or lubricated if required.
- - Tyre wear
  - Wheel bearings
  - Castors
  - Brakes
  - Legrest locking mechanism
  - Seat upholstery
  - Back upholster
  - Arm pads
  - Rear wheel quick release pin
  - Back post
  - Wheelchair (fold ups)

## Warranty

Your Ugo branded product is warranted to be free of defects in materials and workmanship for one year from date of purchase. This device was built to exacting standards and carefully inspected prior to shipment. This warranty is an expression of our confidence in the materials and workmanship of our products and our assurance to the customer.

In the event of a defect covered by this warranty, we will at our option supply part or replace the device. This warranty does not cover device failure due to owner misuse or negligence, or normal wear and tear. The warranty does not extend to non-durable components, such as rubber accessories, castors and grips, which are subject to normal wear and need periodic replacement. The wheelchair frame has a 2 year warranty.

If you have any queries or require full warranty conditions, please contact your stockist.