



Moving Health Forward

# Encora

## User Manual



**Important:**

Read carefully before use and retain for future reference.

It is the carer/user's responsibility to ensure they are fully aware of and have understood all the safety and other instructions contained in these pages before installing or using the chair.

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## 1. Introduction to the Encora Chair

Thank you for purchasing a Direct Healthcare Group (DHG) Encora chair.

The Encora chair encompasses the essential elements of specialist seating in terms of the correct chair dynamics as well as providing a choice of different pressure relieving seat modules depending on individual user's pressure management requirements.

The Encora has the ability for carers to easily adjust the tilt-in-space positioning, back recline facility and legrest elevation using either a simple gas action adjustment mechanism or at the touch of a button on the electric model.

### 1.1. Why is There a Need for this Type of Chair?

The ability of a seated person to function efficiently and perform activities depends on their ability to adopt the appropriate posture.

All activity is posture dependent. If a person cannot move or has difficulty adjusting their posture, it may be necessary to use seating to try to provide externally what is limited internally.

The Encora helps fulfil the need to maintain an individual's seated posture yet re-orientate and redistribute pressure. This is achieved by using the tilt-in-space, back angle recline and legrest elevation properties that are key to the functionality of the Encora chair.

## 2. Warranty Guidelines

### 2.1. Warranty and Liability

Direct Healthcare Group provides a warranty to the buyer that the goods supplied will be free from defect of workmanship, design or materials for a period of twelve (12) months from date of delivery. The Encora chair frame has a ten (10) year warranty, subject to warranty guidelines 2.3 – 2.4, excluding damage to castors, upholstery and electrical components. An annual maintenance service is recommended but not essential.

### 2.2. Use

- a) Each Direct Healthcare Group product is designed to a high specification for a particular type of use.
- b) It is important therefore that the correct product is purchased by the buyer. If the buyer intends to purchase goods for a non-approved use he must use his own skill and judgment.
- c) No employee or agent of Direct Healthcare Group is authorised to recommend non-approved uses, and the buyer should not rely on such recommendations.
- d) User instructions should be followed in all respects.

### 2.3. When the Warranty will not Apply:

- a) Use of incorrect cleaning products that may damage the surface material.
- b) Incorrect maintenance not approved by Direct Healthcare Group.
- c) Alterations by the buyer to the original goods.
- d) Incorrect means of transportation of the goods.
- e) Normal wear and tear.
- f) Non Approved uses:
  - Sitting on the arms of a chair.
  - Sitting on the legrest or footrest of a chair.
  - Hitting the chair against people and objects such as walls, doors, beds, tables, chairs, etc.
  - Spilling food, urine, excrement and other matter on the chair and not cleaning it off within a very short time of spillage (2 minutes) often causes the chair to smell and become a health hazard. Also, matter penetrates covering material, seams and foam.
  - Excessive force is often applied to the moving parts of chairs thereby breaking or bending metal and wood parts.
  - Bumping chairs up or down stairs or over obstructions with a person seated in the chair causes damage to wheels, framework and upholstery.

### 2.4. When the Warranty Does Apply:

Direct Healthcare Group will:

- a) Rectify the defect
- or
- b) Where in the opinion of Direct Healthcare Group, rectification is impossible, the product will be replaced.

### 2.5. Statutory Rights

Nothing contained in our Terms and Conditions nor in these guidelines shall affect the statutory rights of the consumer.

### 2.6. Warning

In this manual, warnings are indicated by symbols. The warning symbols are accompanied by a heading that indicates the severity of the danger.



#### **WARNING**

Indicates a hazardous situation that could result in serious injury or death if it is not avoided.



#### **CAUTION**

Indicates a hazardous situation that could result in minor or slight injury if it is not avoided.



#### **IMPORTANT**

Indicates a hazardous situation that could result in damage to property if it is not avoided.

### 3. Clinical Applications

#### 3.1. Intended Use

The Encora is intended for the following user environments:

- Care facilities such as nursing and residential care homes.
- Hospital environments.
- Hospice care.
- Community living.
- Private residences.

#### 3.2. Who is the Encora Suitable for?

The Encora is appropriate for the following users

- Semi-ambulant and non-ambulant users who require assistance getting in and out of the chair.
- Users requiring moderate postural support when seated.
- Users at low to medium risk of pressure injuries (on chairs fitted with Reflexion™ seat foam).
- Users at high risk to very high risk or with up to a Grade IV pressure injury (on chairs fitted with a Dyna-Tek® Intelligent Air seat) following a clinical assessment.
- Users with mild to severe cognitive impairment.
- For users undergoing rehabilitation, therapy or treatment.
- For users needing postural support when being moved.

#### 3.3. Who is the Encora not Suitable for?

The Encora is not suitable for the following users:

- Fully ambulant users unless fully supervised by a healthcare professional in a treatment setting and following a clinical assessment.
- Users with complex postures requiring significant support.

### 4. Product Information

#### 4.1. Product Identification

Each chair has a unique number to enable swift identification.

This number can be found on the underside of the seat module of the chair.



#### 4.2. Key Features

- Tilt-in-Space, independent back angle recline and legrest elevation controlled through either:
  - Electrically powered, or
  - Manual Gas Action facility
- Arching legrest action
- Pressure relieving Reflexion™ foam on all user contact surfaces
- Waterfall backrest option
- Advanced comfort backrest
- Multi-directional stretch, breathable Dartex material on all user contact surfaces
- Adjustable chair height from ground and seat length
- Integral lateral supports
- 100mm/4” castors, braked at rear
- Modular back, arm, seat and legrest components

#### 4.3. Key Options

##### 4.3.1. Backrest Styles

The backrest style is selected at the time of manufacture but an alternative backrest can be purchased. For further information and pricing, please contact Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on Freephone 0800 043 0881.

### The Advanced Comfort Back

Incorporating the highly acclaimed Reflexion Foam™, the Encora's Advanced Comfort Backrest is able to mould itself to the contours of the user to help disperse body weight more evenly over a greater surface area contributing to the comfort and support of the user.

Essential to the design of the Advanced Comfort Backrest are the built in lateral and lumbar supports. The integral flexible headrest provides further positioning support and comfort for the user.

### Cushioned Waterfall Backrest

The Waterfall Backrest offers soft, immersive, fibre-filled back support and cushioning to accommodate a variety of postures.

### 4.3.2. Pressure Management

Pressure management is critical for those who are seated for long periods or for those at risk of tissue damage. The Encora has pressure relieving foams on all contact surface areas of the chair and further options are available for the seat module in accordance with the occupant's needs. If you are unsure about the suitability of your pressure care, please seek advice and input from a qualified Occupational Therapist, Tissue Viability Nurse, healthcare professional and/or Direct Healthcare Group representative/retailer before purchasing.

### 4.4. Accessories

<b>EN107</b>	Flip-Up Footrest	<b>KB726</b>	Large Padded Vinyl Pelvic Positioner (Requires D-Ring Straps)
<b>EN301</b>	Laminated Tray with Straps (400/450)	<b>KB719</b>	Large Fleecy-Faced Pelvic Positioner (Requires D-Ring Straps)
<b>EN306</b>	Laminated Tray with Straps (500/550)	<b>UL706</b>	D-Ring Straps (Long)
<b>EN412</b>	Universal Headrest in Dartex	<b>EN990</b>	Annual Maintenance Visit
<b>EN413</b>	Lap-Belt (Requires D-Ring Straps)		
<b>KB724</b>	Large Pelvic Positioner (Requires D-Ring Straps)		



#### CAUTION

Only use accessories recommended by Direct Healthcare Group with the Encora chair.

## 5. Guidelines for Best Practice

To ensure good practice when considering purchasing an Encora chair and effective use post purchase we advise that the following guidelines are considered:

- Seek advice and input from a qualified Occupational Therapist, healthcare professional and/or Direct Healthcare Group representative/retailer at the initial prescription of the chair.
- If unsure when ordering the chair and any accessories contact either the Occupational Therapist involved, your Direct Healthcare Group representative, retailer or Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on **Freephone 0800 043 0881**.
- All care-givers that will be supervising the user(s) should be trained in operating the chair to ensure correct positioning of the user is achieved.

## 6. Instructions for Use

The purpose of these user instructions is to ensure the safe operation and maintenance of your Encora chair.

The chair is ready for use once fully installed in the correct position and all carers/users have read and understood the operating instructions.

Safety warnings are included within these user instructions and it is the operator's responsibility to ensure these are read and fully understood.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Direct Healthcare Group representative, retailer or the Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on **Freephone 0800 043 0881**.

Please retain these instructions for future reference

### 6.1. General Operation

Products must **never** be modified or altered after purchase other than by Direct Healthcare Group authorised personnel.

It is extremely important that Encora chairs are used appropriately, if there is any doubt as to the suitability of the product for a user, professional advice should be sought from a qualified healthcare professional such as an Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist, Tissue Viability Nurse or a moving and handling specialist.

Consideration should be given to matching the basic dimensions of the chair to the body size of the user to ensure good posture, support, comfort and safety. Any pressure care, moving and handling, incontinence or infection control issues should be considered and appropriate advice taken from qualified healthcare professionals.

Environmental factors should also be considered and assessed and any potential risks or hazards should be identified and taken into consideration to ensure user safety.

When any chair is specified we recommend that a risk assessment is conducted to ensure it will be safe and appropriate for the user(s) of the chair and for all who may find themselves in the vicinity of the chair. Regular reassessment as to the suitability of the product for the user is important.

If you wish to discuss safety issues in more detail please telephone our Customer Care Team on **Freephone 0800 043 0881**.



#### CAUTION:

When the chair is in use, always ensure the user is checked regularly for safety and is not left unattended for long periods of time.



#### WARNING

The Encora is not suitable for use by children. Any children present in the vicinity of the chair must be supervised at all times.



#### CAUTION

Do not sit on the arms of the chair at any time.



#### WARNING

Do not push the chair up or down steps or a steep incline as this could result in loss of control.



#### WARNING

Ensure there is nothing present to obstruct the free movement of the chair before attempting to use the chair.

### Battery Care *(Electric Models)*

The battery is charged through the handset using the power pack included with the chair. The power pack should be plugged into a mains socket and then attached to the hand control unit. The charging port on the hand control is at the bottom of the unit.

We recommend that if the chair is used during the day, the battery should be charged overnight to ensure the battery is topped up regularly.

The chair can be used while the chair is being charged, however, we recommend that this is avoided where possible to ensure the charger cable does not become a tripping hazard.



#### IMPORTANT

Do not allow the battery to completely discharge as this will render it unable to fully recharge again. If this happens, the battery will need to be replaced.



**IMPORTANT**

Never move the chair while the charger is still plugged into the wall socket.

**WARNING**

We recommend the use of a power surge protector when using the power pack.

**6.2. Setting up the Encora for use**

Upon delivery of the chair the wrapping should be removed carefully in order not to damage the upholstery.

The user instructions must be fully read by all involved with using the chair and ensure the chair is set up correctly before use.

It is recommended that the chair is adjusted to accommodate each occupant's specific requirements in terms of seat length and height, back angle and tilt-in-space.

Begin by sitting the user in the chair, most adjustments can be easily made with the occupant in the chair with the exception of the seat length which is easier to facilitate when the chair is unoccupied.

**IMPORTANT**

Do not use sharp scissors or blades to cut the plastic wrapping from the chair as this could accidentally damage the upholstery.

**6.2.1 Seat Depth Adjustment**

The seat depth should be adjusted for each occupant. If the seat depth, from the front of the seat cushion to the backrest of the chair, is too deep the occupant will slide forward, losing posture and increasing localised pressure, and if it is not deep enough, pressure will be concentrated on a smaller area of the body and poorly distributed.

If the person is slumped in the chair when being measured it will give an inaccurate seat depth measurement. Correct this position before measuring provided it is safe to do so.

The chair back or the back of the seat cushion should be the starting point for measuring seat depth. To measure, squat to the person's side to avoid stooping and hold the tape measure end against the chair back or the back of the seat cushion and bring the tape forwards until it is level with the back of the knee. Record the measurement.

If the legrest is regularly used at 90° to the seat then a minimum clearance of 25mm or one inch between the front of the seat cushion and the calf is desirable when the occupant is seated against the back of the seat.

If the legrest is generally used elevated, then the optimum seat length is when the calf lightly touches the legrest cushion.

To adjust the seat length, ensure the chair is unoccupied. Go to the rear of the chair and locate the silver-spring adjuster.

Lifting the spring will enable the seat module to be moved forwards or backwards according to the user's needs.

The seat module may be still to adjust, but by moving to the front of the chair and positioning one hand at the back of the seat module and the other at the front, the correct seat length should be achieved.

Secure the silver-spring adjuster before leaving the chair unattended.

Sit the user in the chair and check the dimensions.

Position the user in the chair to ensure the seat length is correct. If it needs adjusting further ensure the chair is unoccupied and repeat the adjustment steps.

**IMPORTANT**

Only adjust the seat length when the chair is unoccupied.

### 6.2.2. Seat Height Adjustment

Achieving the correct seat height for the chair occupant allows the feet to be positioned firmly on the floor or footrest to ensure even weight distribution and assist the ambulant user to stand from the chair more readily. Too high or too low a seat can lead to pressure injuries and discomfort.

To adjust the seat height, locate the retractable seat height adjustment handle at the rear of the chair.

To **raise** the chair, turn the handle clockwise until the desired height is reached.

To **lower** the chair, turn the handle anti-clockwise.

### 6.2.3. Legrest Length Adjustment

When the legrest is elevated, it is possible to extend the legrest further to offer calf support to those with longer legs.

To adjust the legrest length, locate the silver-spring adjuster at the end of the legrest on the right hand side.

Pull the spring out and lift up the legrest cushion until it is level with the other two cushions. Release the silver-spring so that it locks into the hole and check that the legrest is secure.



#### IMPORTANT

Always ensure the third roll is retracted before lowering the legrest.

### 6.3. Castors

The Florian Elite is fitted as standard with four 100mm (4") castors with two swivel castors at the front and two locking castors at the rear that will not roll or swivel when the brakes are activated.

To **apply** the brakes on the braked castors, press down on the **red** front edge of the ridged pad on each castor.

To **unlock** the brakes on the braked castors, push down on the raised top of the **red** ridged pad until it is level with the rest of the castor housing.



#### WARNING

Ensure the castor brakes are applied at all times when the occupant is left unattended in the chair.



#### WARNING

Ensure castor brakes are applied when the occupant is being transferred in or out of the chair to avoid any unexpected movement of the chair.



#### CAUTION

Always check that the castors are unlocked before moving the chair.



#### CAUTION

Ensure there is nothing present to obstruct the free movement of the chair before releasing the brake and attempting to move the chair.

### Direction Lock Castor (Optional Accessory)

The back right wheel is generally assigned as the directional locking castor identifiable by the **green** tab. It enables the castor to be locked in the "straight ahead" position making it easier to push the chair in a straight line.

- To activate press down on the **green** front edge of the ridged pad. Then push the chair forwards to activate the directional lock. It will "click" when in the straight ahead position.
- To deactivate the directional castor, press down on the top edge of the **green** ridged pad until it is level with the top edge of the rest of the wheel.
- Ensure the directional lock castor is deactivated before manoeuvring the chair in tight spaces.
- The remaining three castors will be fully locking castors (**red** tab) that will not roll or swivel when the brake is activated.



## 6.4. Tilt-in-Space

### What is Tilt-in-Space?

Tilt-in-space is a pivoting system that provides a reclined, resting position enabling the occupant of the chair to be tilted forward or backwards whilst maintaining posture and pelvic stability.

By keeping the angle between the chair seat and the back at around 110°, the occupant will not slide forwards into an uncomfortable slumped position. Tilting the chair redistributes the occupant’s weight over a larger contact surface area, making a simple yet effective way to combat the build-up of pressure.



#### CAUTION

It is recommended to use a lap belt or pelvic positioner (optional accessories) with occupants with poor postural sitting ability.



#### WARNING

Never leave an occupant with poor postural sitting ability in a fully upright position without supervision as they may tip or slide forward into an inappropriate position or out of the chair completely.



#### WARNING

Ensure the occupant’s hands are clear from the back of the chair whilst the chair is being tilted, to avoid any risk of pinching within the tilt mechanism.



#### WARNING

Ensure there is nothing present to obstruct the free movement of the chair (e.g. children, pets or solid objects) before operating the tilt-in-space.



#### CAUTION

Ensure any tray used with the chair is removed before tilting the chair; otherwise contents of the tray could spill onto the user.

### 6.4.1. Manual Operation (Manual Models Only)

It is recommended that the tilt-in-space angle is changed at regular intervals to redistribute pressure and minimise the risk of the occupant developing pressure hotspots which could lead to pressure injuries.

Squeeze the lever towards the push handle to release the tilt lock. Apply firm downward pressure with both hands on the push handle to tilt the chair backwards, alternatively lift the push handle upwards to raise the chair to an upright position.

- At any point during the upward or downward tilt motion the lever can be released and the chair will lock in the selected position.
- It is always advisable to adjust the positioning of the legrest once the tilt-in-space positioning has been chosen, to ensure a correct and comfortable posture.

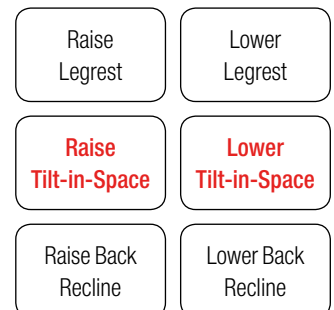
### 6.4.2. Electric Operation (Electric Models Only)

The Electrically powered Encora chairs enable either the carer or the user, where appropriate, to adjust the Tilt-in-Space facility by the simple touch of a button.

Simply press and hold the ‘Lower Tilt-in-Space’ button to tilt the chair backwards until the desired position is reached. Release the button.

To bring the chair back up towards an upright position, press and hold the ‘Raise Tilt-in-Space’ button until the desired position is reached. Release the button.

It is always advisable to adjust the positioning of the legrest once the tilt-in-space positioning has been chosen, to ensure a correct and comfortable posture.



Encora Handset Button Configuration

## 6.5. Back Recline

The backrest of the chair can be reclined independently from the tilt-in-space motion in order to provide comfort and facilitate appropriate positioning for the occupant.

If you are unsure about the positioning of the occupant in the Encora chair, please seek advice and input from a qualified Occupational Therapist, healthcare professional and/or Direct Healthcare Group representative/retailer before adjusting.

**!** **IMPORTANT**  
Use the back recline in conjunction with tilt-in-space to avoid the occupant slumping or sliding into an uncomfortable and inappropriate position.

**!** **WARNING**  
Ensure nothing is present to obstruct the free movement of the chair (e.g. children, pets or solid objects) before operating the back recline.

### 6.5.1. Manual Operation *(Manual Models Only)*

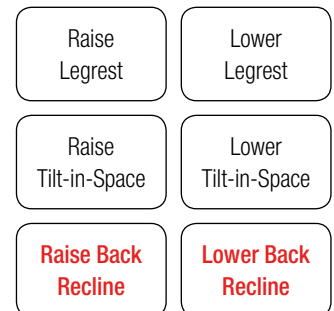
Back recline operating lever is located on the left hand side of push handle at the rear of the chair.

- To adjust the back recline position, gently squeeze the lever and apply firm downward pressure with both hand on the push handle to recline the chair backwards, alternatively lift the push handle upwards to raise the back to an upright position.
- Gently squeeze the lever and apply firm downward pressure with both hands on the push handle to recline the chair backwards, alternatively lift the push handle upwards to raise the back to an upright position.
- At any point during the upward or downward recline motion the lever can be released and the chair will lock in the selected position.
- It is important that an occupant's recline position is in line with postural capabilities. Once the correct seat and back recline angle has been established for the occupant it can be locked in place by twisting the spigot on the recline lever so it can no longer be squeezed.

### 6.5.1. Electric Operation *(Electric Models Only)*

Simply press and hold the 'Lower Back Recline' button to recline the backrest until the desired position is reached. Release the button.

To bring the backrest up towards an upright position, press and hold the 'Raise Back Recline' button until the desired position is reached. Release the button.



Encora Handset Button Configuration

## 6.6. Legrest Elevation

The Elevating Legrest can assist with the lymphatic and blood circulation. Lifting and straightening the knees has the effect of allowing the blood to circulate more freely, reducing the effort required by the heart and arterial systems. Raising the legs can also help alleviate leg oedema, a build-up of fluid in the legs. The Elevating Legrest motion is to 55° elevation from a neutral down position.



**!** **IMPORTANT**  
Do not sit on the legrest. The legrest is not designed to support the weight of an adult.

**!** **WARNING**  
When retracting the legrest, ensure the occupant's legs are in the middle of the legrest to avoid the risk of trapping the occupant's legs or feet between the legrest and chair frame.



**WARNING**

When retracting the legrest, keep hands clear of the seat cushion, to avoid any risk of pinching fingers.



**WARNING**

Ensure nothing is present to obstruct the free movement of the chair (e.g. children, pets or solid objects) before operating the legrest elevation.



**IMPORTANT**

When lowering the legrest, or returning the chair from a tilted to upright position, it is advisable to adjust the footrest to the shortest position or remove it entirely to prevent damage to the footrest or floor. If left extended, it will fall on the floor when the chair is tilted forward and could be damaged.

**6.6.1. Manual Operation** *(Manual Models Only)*

Locate the legrest release lever on the right hand side of the armrest.

Lift the lever and gently guide the legrest into an elevated position. Release the lever when the desired position is reached.

- To retract the legrest, raise the same lever and push downwards.

Lower the legrest before returning the chair to its fully upright position to allow the user to stand up from the chair with ease.

The manual version of the Encora features an extra, flip-up cushion on the legrest. This can be extended out by locating the spring-loaded snap lock which can be located on the left-hand side of the leg rest.

To return the extra flip-up cushion open the snap lock and return to its original position.

**6.6.2. Electric Operation** *(Electric Models Only)*

To raise the legrest, simply press and hold the 'Raise Legrest' button on the handset until the desired height is reached.

To lower the legrest, simply press and hold the 'Lower Legrest' button on the handset until the desired angle is reached.

Lower the legrest before returning the chair to its fully upright position to allow the user to stand up from the chair with ease.



*Encora Handset Button Configuration*

**6.7. Articulating Headrest**

The articulating headrest is an integral part of the back of the Encora chair. The pivot point is located approximately 30cm (12 inches) from the top of the chair.

To adjust the headrest:

Stand behind the chair and place one hand on the push handle. Use the other hand to push firmly on the top of the backrest forward until the headrest is in the desired position.

The friction lock will ensure this position is maintained and will not move when the chair is occupied.



**CAUTION**

The headrest must always be adjusted by a carer or someone else, never by the user of the chair whilst in the chair.

**6.8. Integrated Laterals**

Located on both sides of the backrest are integrated side laterals, which are operated via a friction joint. To bring the laterals in stand behind the chair and place one hand on the push handle. Use the other hand to push firmly on the lateral until it is in the desired position. The friction lock will ensure this position is maintained and will not move when the chair is occupied.



**CAUTION**

The laterals must always be adjusted by a carer or someone else, never by the user of the chair whilst in the chair.

## 7. Accessories

### 7.1. Flip-up Footrest

The height adjustable footrest provides added support and positioning for the feet and is provided to aid foot-drop and other similar conditions.



#### CAUTION

The carer should keep hands clear of the footrest hinge whilst operating the flip-up footrest to avoid risk of pinching fingers.



#### WARNING

Do not sit on the footrest at any time.

#### 7.1.1. Footrest Height Adjustment

- Raise the legrest to the desired angle (refer to section 6.6)
- The complete footrest height should then be adjusted by releasing two spring-loaded “snaps” which engage in holes in the metalwork of the legrest

The “snaps” are located behind the legrest framework. Reach around the legrest and pull out both pins and turn them to 90° to enable the footrest to be positioned.

- Slide the footrest up or down as required and turn the snaps back through 90° allowing the snaps to click into the required hole.

Only when the snaps audibly click into place will the footrest be secure.

To completely remove the footrest from the chair, follow the above instructions and slide the footrest off the legrest frame. To replace the footrest, slide the footrest back onto the legrest frame and secure the snaps as detailed above.



Unlocked

Locked



#### WARNING

Ensure the snaps are fully locked and the footrest is secure before leaving the occupier unattended.



#### CAUTION

The carer should keep hands clear of the footrest hinge whilst operating the flip-up footrest to avoid pinching fingers.

### 7.2 Universal Headrest

The Universal Headrest can be purchased for use with the Encora chair to provide additional comfort, support and positioning for the occupant's head. The Universal Headrest can be purchased for use with the Encora chair to provide additional comfort, support and positioning for the occupant's head.

The headrest can be removed if required by loosening the Velcro attachment straps at the rear of the chair and sliding off.

Reattach by fastening the Velcro at the rear of the chair as tightly as possible in the appropriate position for the occupant.

### 7.3 Lap-Belt and D-Ring Fixing

The Lap-Belt helps stabilise the pelvis and position the occupant in the back of the chair to achieve a good sitting posture and reduce the risk of tissue damage through the effects of shear which can occur if the occupant has an unstable posture.

When using a Lap-Belt a level of supervision appropriate to the occupants abilities must be applied at all times.

All Lap-Belts need to be correctly adjusted to adequately support the occupant without restricting breathing or causing discomfort.



It is essential the Lap-Belt does not fit loosely around the occupant and is not allowed to work loose over time as this will allow the pelvis to tilt backwards, encouraging the occupant to slide down and forward in the chair, particularly if in an upright position.

*Ideally the D-Ring fixings for the Lap-Belt and the Lap-Belt itself will be fitted at time of manufacture however; it can be fitted retrospectively by a trained representative (refer to D-Ring fixing).*

To use the Lap-Belt effectively, undo the buckle joining the two halves of the strap by depressing the button on the central console and place the straps over the arms or to the side of the seat before transferring the occupant into the chair.

When the occupant is seated correctly, bring the two sides of the buckle together and fasten.

To adjust the Lap-Belt, pull on the plastic loop to give firm control but take care not to restrict the occupant's movement. The Lap-Belt is designed to pull back over the hips at an angle between 45° and 60°.

This angle helps to maintain a vertical pelvis by simultaneously positioning the hip joint down and back.

### D-Ring Fixing

The chair may come pre-fitted with D-Ring straps if ordered at the time of manufacture.

If so, these will normally be visible near the interface between the seat module and the back cushion.

In this case, the Lap-Belt can be fixed to the D-Rings by simply snapping the spring clip on the end of the Lap-Belt onto the visible D-Ring.

If the chair is not already fitted with D-Rings, these should be attached to a rigid part of the chair's metal framework on either side of the seat module in order they can feed through between the seat and arm modules.



#### WARNING

If the Lap-Belt is too loose there is a risk of the occupant sliding underneath or into an inappropriate position. The Lap-Belt should be checked for correct tightness, regularly. Care should be taken not to over tighten the Lap-Belt in order to reduce the risk of harm to the occupant.



#### WARNING

The webbing and plastic fittings should be checked at least weekly for any signs of damage. If damaged, the Lap-Belt should not be used.



#### WARNING

The occupant is at risk if the Lap-Belt is not properly specified and adjusted to their particular requirements.



#### WARNING

Thrusts, spasms and strong movements, for example, as well as partial loosening of the Lap-Belt could cause injury to the occupant.

## 7.4. Pelvic Positioner

The Pelvic Positioner is used to help position occupants securely in the back of the chair for those with low muscle tone or control in their pelvis.



### Fitting the Pelvic Positioner to the chair

Ensure the chair is unoccupied before fitting the Pelvic Positioner.



Place the Pelvic Positioner in the seat of the chair with the buckles pointing towards the chair front and the clips on the buckles facing down.



Feed the lengths of the straps through the D-rings on either side of the seat module.



Place the ends of the straps over the arms of the chair ready for the occupant to transfer to the chair.

Sit the occupant into the chair with their pelvis firmly back in the seat and their buttocks on the back edge of the Pelvic Positioner.



Bring the straps over the occupant's thigh and through the buckles on each end of the Pelvic Positioner, located between the occupant's legs.



Pull the straps tight and fasten down the clips on the buckles. The fit should be snug – not too tight and not too loose.



#### CAUTION

Take care when adjusting positions to avoid trapping or pinching of body parts.



#### WARNING

Only a trained individual or a responsible person should adjust the product.



#### WARNING

The occupant should be regularly checked and the Pelvic Positioner adjusted to ensure optimum positioning and safety.



#### WARNING

Due to the risk of cross infection, this product should not be used by more than one person.

## 7.5. Laminated Tray

The tray rests across the two armrests of the Encora chair. It is fixed in position by taking the two webbing straps down either side of the chair, feeding the straps through the buckle and clamping in position with the clamp.

To remove the tray, lift the clamp to release the webbing strap. Gently pull the straps back out of the buckle and simply lift the tray away from the chair.

The Laminated Tray must be purchased at the time of manufacture of the chair and cannot be retrospectively fitted as the securing buckles must be fitted to the chair at the time of manufacture.



#### WARNING

The tray must be removed before attempting to transfer the user out of the chair.



## 8. Re-Use and Re-Issue

While the Encora chair has been tailored specifically for the planned occupant's needs at the time of manufacture, with some alterations and adjustments, the chair can be re-issued and re-used in a multi-user healthcare environment.

Please seek advice from a qualified Occupational Therapist, healthcare professional and/or Direct Healthcare Group representative/retailer before using the Encora chair with another user for whom the chair was not originally specified.



### WARNING

Consideration to cross infection risks must be given when reusing or reissuing chairs.



### CAUTION

If using the Encora chair in a multi-user environment conducting an in situ risk assessment is recommended.

### 8.1. Modularity

The Encora chair has a durable frame with modular back, arm, seat and legrest components. These components can be purchased separately as required, whether to replace a worn module or to re-issue to another user.

Contact the Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on **Freephone 0800 043 0881** or your local retailer for current pricing and availability.

#### 8.1.1. Seat Modules

The seat module dimensions are set at the time of manufacture. The Encora seat modules are available in the following seat widths: 400mm, 450mm, 500mm or 550mm.

The seat modules are also available with three levels of pressure relief:

- Reflexion™ foam seat cushion (for those at low to medium risk of pressure injuries).
- Intelli-Gel® seat cushion (for those at high risk or with up to a Grade II pressure injury).
- Dyna-Tek® Intelligent Air seat cushion (for those at very high risk or up to a grade IV pressure injury).

If an alternative size of seat module is required from the original specification, please contact Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on **Freephone 0800 043 0881** or your local retailer as this will affect the back, arm and legrest modules of the chair.

A visit from a Direct Healthcare Group trained engineer will be required to fit the replacement seat module.

#### 8.1.2. Back Modules

A replacement back module can be purchased for the Encora chair, please contact the Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on **Freephone 0800 043 0881** for further information or your local retailer.

A visit from a Direct Healthcare Group trained engineer will be required to fit the replacement back module.

#### 8.1.3. Arm Modules

Replacement arm modules can be purchased for the Encora chair, please contact Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on **Freephone 0800 043 0881** or your local retailer for further information.

#### 8.1.4. Legrest Cushion

A replacement legrest cushion can be purchased for the Encora chair. Please contact Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on **Freephone 0800 043 0881** or your local retailer for further information

### 8.2. Disposal of the chair

The Encora chair consists of mostly metal, plastic, wood, foam and fabric components. Disposal of each individual material must be carried out in line with the environmental and disposal regulations in the relevant country, and may only take place after the chair has been dismantled fully.



## 9. Care and Maintenance

Every time the chair is used, check for signs of damage or excessive wear and tear.

If the chair displays signs of excessive wear and tear take out of service immediately and contact Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on Freephone 0800 043 0881, or your local retailer, for advice about repair and refurbishment.



### WARNING

Failure to repair damage or wear and tear could put the occupant at risk of injury.

### 9.1. Service Life

The service life of the chair in normal daily use is 10 years. The framework, excluding castors and consumables, is warranted for 10 years. Upholstery and other consumables which are warranted for 12 months, such as castors, upholstery and electrical components, may need to be replaced within this time frame.

It is recommended that the chair is inspected by a trained service technician every year, to ensure safe operation of the product (refer to 2. Warranty Guidelines).



### WARNING

If the chair develops a fault, STOP using the chair, and contact Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on Freephone 0800 043 0881 or your local retailer for further advice.

### 9.2. Periodic Checks

The chair should be checked every time it is used for signs of damage or excessive wear and tear to ensure safe and reliable operation.

Monthly checks should include, but are not limited to:

- Any damage to the cables or adjustment levers.
- Any loose or detached parts.
- Check castors for damage and a build-up of fluff and dirt particles.
- Any damage to the fabric of the chair including any soiling of the fabrics.

If any damage is present, STOP using the chair, and contact Direct Healthcare Group Customer Care Team on Freephone 0800 043 0881 or your local retailer for further advice on repair and refurbishment.

### 9.3. Cleaning

The chair should be kept clean to preserve the life and appearance of the chair.

Regular cleaning is essential to minimise risk of cross infection between users and carers particularly in a multi-user healthcare environment.



### WARNING

Check the chair for correct functioning after cleaning.



### WARNING

Regular cleaning is essential to minimise the risk of infection transmission between users and carers.



### IMPORTANT

To reduce the risk of infection transmission to the carer, always use protective gloves when decontaminating and cleaning the chair.

### 9.3.1. Frame Cleaning

The metal framework of the chair can be cleaned with a mild detergent and a soft cloth.



#### **IMPORTANT**

Cleaning with scouring pads is not recommended.

### 9.3.2. Upholstery Cleaning



#### **IMPORTANT**

To reduce the risk of infection transmission to the carer, always use protective gloves when decontaminating and cleaning the chair.

### Cadet, Venture, Berkshire and Brookland Vinyl Cleaning Instructions (External surfaces)

These vinyls have high scratch resistance and a colour solid to the base cloth.

Anti-Microbial and Anti-Fungal Protection. Tested to AATCC147.

- Clean and care for the fabric on a regular basis and it will maintain its condition and appearance. Most stains can be removed by wiping clean.
- The new generation of microfibre cleaning cloths are extremely effective with or without soap for general care and maintenance.
- Wipe clean regularly with a damp cloth to remove dust particles and light soiling.
- Remove spillages promptly (within 15 minutes) with an absorbent dry cloth.
- For heavier soiling, use a soft brush with care to avoid abrasive damage to surface and tepid soapy water (non-alkaline). Rinse clean with clear water. Dry with an absorbent cloth.
- Bodily fluids should be removed promptly (within 15 minutes) with cold water and then cleaned as above.
- Extreme soiling/infection control use a 5% sodium hypochlorite (bleach) solution.
- Do not machine wash or dry clean.
- Do not use polish or solvents.

### Enduratex<sup>®</sup> Vinyl Cleaning Instructions (External Surfaces)

Enduratex<sup>®</sup> contact materials are protected by Produratec-C<sup>®</sup> lacquer coating and are resistant to every day wear and contact with mild acids, alkali, drinks, household stains.

- Use warm soapy water and/or Haz-tab or Clor-clean solution and a household cloth.
- Rub evenly in the direction of the grain of the material.
- Rinse with clean water afterwards.
- Can also be steam cleaned.

**DO NOT USE bleaches, solvents, abrasives, wax polishes or aerosol sprays.**

### Dartex Cleaning Instructions (User Contact Surfaces)

#### **General Guidance**

- Attention must be paid to the properties of any other materials, which may be combined with Dartex Coatings fabrics in the final article (e.g. dimensional stability, colour fastness, washing instructions).
- Some surface wrinkling may result from cleaning procedures. This has no adverse effect on the fabric's properties.
- Abrasive cleaning agents should not be used.

## Washing and Disinfection

- Superficial dirt on the coating may be removed by wiping with a soft cloth moistened with water containing a neutral detergent. More persistent contamination may be treated by wiping with alcohols or turpentine substitute, followed by hot water and detergent.
- Cleaning and disinfection in situ may be carried out on the coating with hand hot water and a neutral detergent or with a sodium hypochlorite solution (0.1% or 1000 parts per million available chlorine).
- Proprietary disinfectants may be used provided manufacturer's instructions are followed.
- All cleaning agents, and disinfectants, must be thoroughly rinsed off and the item dried before storage. Failure to do this may result in the accumulation of reagent that could damage the polyurethane coating, react with the chair frame, or negate the biocompatibility results of the Dartex fabric.

## Drying

- It is essential that articles be thoroughly dried after all cleaning procedures and before storage.

## Storage

- Store in a cool, dry area. Avoid excessive pressure and contact with non-colourfast materials.

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## 10. Technical Data

### 10.1. Manufacturing Address

Direct Healthcare Group

Withey Court, Western Industrial Estate, Caerphilly, UK, CF83 1BF

**Email:** info@directhealthcaregroup.com **Tel:** +44 (0) 800 043 0881

### 10.2. Maximum User Weight

Maximum user weight limit **160kg (353lbs) or 25 stone**

Please adhere to the user weight limit for the Encora chair and note your warranty will be void and user safety may be compromised should the weight limit be exceeded.

### 10.3. Weight and Dimensions of the Chair

Item	Weight (kg)	Dimensions (mm)
Encora 400 or 450 Manual	64	870 x 700 x 1280 x 1400
Encora 400 or 450 Manual + Box + Pallet	81	1000 x 800 x 1450
Encora 500 or 550 Manual	65	870 x 800 x 1280 x 1400
Encora 500 or 550 Manual + Box + Pallet	82	1000 x 800 x 1450
Encora 400 or 450 Electric	80	870 x 700 x 1280 x 1400
Encora 400 or 450 Electric + Box + Pallet	97	1000 x 800 x 1450

Item	Weight (kg)	Dimensions (mm)
Encora 500 or 550 Electric	81	870 x 800 x 1280 x 1400
Encora 500 or 550 Electric + Box + Pallet	98	1000 x 800 x 1450
Cardboard Box	7	1000 x 800 x 1300
Pallet	10	1000 x 800 x 150

## 10.4. Product Standards

MHRA Registration CA000105

### 10.4.1. Flammability Testing

- BS 7176:2007+A1:2011 (Specification for resistance to ignition of upholstered furniture for non-domestic seating by testing composites).
- BS EN 1021-1:2014 (Furniture. Assessment of the ignitability of upholstered furniture. Ignition source smouldering cigarette).
- BS EN 1021-2:2014 (Furniture. Assessment of the ignitability of upholstered furniture. Ignition source match flame equivalent).
- BS 5852:2006 (Methods of test for assessment of the ignitability of upholstered seating by smouldering and flaming ignition sources).

### 10.4.2. Strength, Stability, Durability, Risk and Safety

- BS EN 1022:2005 (Domestic furniture. Seating. Determination of stability).
- BS EN 16139:2013 (Furniture. Strength, durability and safety. Requirements for non-domestic seating).
- BS EN ISO 14971:2012 (Medical devices. Application of risk management to medical devices).

### 10.4.3. Quality and Environmental



## 11. Customer Support

Should you have any concerns or are experiencing any problems regarding the set up or maintenance of your Encora chair please contact our Customer Care Team on Freephone 0800 043 0881.







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