

GE-II

User Instructions

GE-II User Information February 2014

Contents

IMPORTANT NOTICE

- 2 Introduction to the GE-II chair
- 2 GE-II Product Information
- 2 Questions and Concerns
- 2 The User Instructions
- 3 Guidelines for Best Practice

General Operation of the GE-II:

- 3 Adjusting the GE-II chair for the user
- 3 Tilt-in-Space & Legrest Elevation
- 3-4 GE-II Gas Action Version
- 3 Legrest Elevation
- 4 Tilt-in-Space
- 4 Stretching of the cable
- 4 GE-II Electric Version
- 4-5 Regulated Motion Version
- 5 Seat Length Adjustment
- 5 Footboard Height Adjustment
- 5 Footboard Angle Adjustment
- 5 Adjustable Lateral Supports
- 6 Articulating Backrest
- 6 Leg Laterals
- 6 GE-II Headrest
- 6 Headcap
- 6 Laminated Tray with Straps
- 6 Wheels
- 7 5th Wheel
- 7 Care and Maintenance
- 7 Cleaning Instructions
- 8 Potential Risks, Cautions and Warnings
- 8 Helpline



IMPORTANT NOTICE for GE-II Electric and GE-II Regulated Motion chairs only

- On receipt of the chair the battery must be fully charged before use.
- It is recommended that the battery is charged for at least 8 hours.
- **DO NOT** let the battery completely discharge as this will render it unable to fully recharge again. If the battery is left to completely discharge it will have to be replaced and this **is not** covered under warranty.
- It is recommended that the battery is charged regularly overnight to prevent complete discharge.
- The chair may be used and operated whilst it is being charged.
- **WARNING** – If the chair is moved whilst plugged into the wall socket, damage may occur to the charger.

What is the GE-II?

Underpinned by scientific bio-mechanical research and ergonomic design principles, the GE-II range of chairs are sophisticated and dynamic tilt-in-space seating systems, providing superior postural support and exceptional positioning with superior comfort.

Pressure is managed through the inclusion of Reflexion™ foam on all user contact surface areas and the choice of Reflexion™ foam, Intelli-Gel® or a Transflo Gel cushion in the seat.

Key to the GE-II range is the ability to easily adjust the tilt-in-space positioning to facilitate ultimate pressure management without over-exertion by the carer or indeed the user.

Positioning is made effortless with the option of either Gas Action or Electrically powered adjustments, whilst with Regulated Motion the tilt-in-space movement continuously changes.

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 problems adjusting their posture, it may be necessary to use seating to try to provide externally what is limited internally.

The GE-II 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 and legrest elevation properties that are key to the functionality of the GE-II chairs. These features have been automated in the Regulated Motion GE-II.

Who should consider using the GE-II?

Designed for those seated for long periods, semi and non-ambulant users or for those with neurological and postural related problems, the GE-II can be used within a variety of different environments including domestic homes, hospitals, hospices and nursing homes.

Range

There are three GE-II chair designs:

1. GE-II with Gas Action Adjustment
2. GE-II with Electric Adjustment
3. GE-II with Regulated Motion

Pressure Relieving Seat Options

- Transflo Gel Cushion Seat Module
- Reflexion™ Foam Seat Module
- Intelli-Gel® Seat Module

Headrest Options

- Universal, Curved or Cushioned Headrests
- Two different rear wheel sizes
- Standard or Contrasting Large Buttoned Hand Controller

Accessories

- Choice of headrest
- Leg-Laterals
- Laminated Tray with straps
- Headcap
- Back Extension to increase back height by 100mm
- Lap-Belts and Pelvic Positioners

Questions and Concerns

Should you experience any difficulties or have any concerns regarding the initial purchase or subsequently adjusting the GE-II chair or have any concerns regarding its use or operation then immediately contact either your Kirton representative, distributor or our Customer Services Team on **Freephone 0800 212709 or +44 (0) 1440 705352**, they will be delighted to help you.

The User Instructions

The purpose of the following user instructions is to provide a guide on how to utilise, adjust and maintain the GE-II chair.

These instructions should be read by all those involved with the supervision of the user and/or the care of the chair before use.

The GE-II **must** be adjusted in terms of seat length, tilt-in-space, legrest and lateral support positioning for each individual using the chair to ensure safe and comfortable use.

Please retain these instructions with the Care and Maintenance card enclosed for future reference.

Guidelines for Best Practice

To ensure good practice when considering purchasing a GE-II chair and effective use post purchase we advise that the following guidelines are considered:

1. Seek advice and input from a qualified therapist/professional and/or Kirton representative/distributor at the initial prescription of the chair.
2. If unsure when ordering the chair and any accessories contact either the therapist involved or your Kirton representative or distributor or our Customer Services Team on **Freephone 0800 212709 or +44 (0) 1440 705352** to discuss further.
3. It is recommended that following receipt of the chair all staff members that will be supervising the user(s) should be trained in adjusting the chair to ensure it is adjusted safely and correct positioning is maintained for the benefit of the user.
4. Users of the GE-II should be supervised and checked regularly to ensure their most appropriate position is maintained in the chair.

Adjusting the GE-II chair for the User

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

Begin by sitting the user in the chair and check the leg dimensions of the user against the position of the footboard (correct positioning of the footboard is outlined below).

Most adjustments can be easily made with the user in the chair with the exception of the seat length adjustment that is easier to facilitate when the chair is unoccupied.

Tilt-in-Space & Legrest Elevation

Tilt-in-Space is a unique pivoting system that provides a reclined, resting position whilst maintaining posture and pelvic stability.

Keeping the angle between the chair seat and back at about 110° eliminates the potential to slide forward into an uncomfortable position. Weight is distributed over a larger contact surface area, reducing the shearing forces on the skin, making it a simple yet effective way to combat the build up of pressure.

Key to the GE-II is the ability to adjust the tilt-in-space and legrest elevation without over exertion by the carer or indeed the user.

GE-II Gas Action Version Legrest Elevation

- The Legrest can be elevated to 42° by lifting the lever that is on the right hand front armrest (face on) upwards and gently guiding the legrest into an elevated position.
- To retract the legrest, raise the same lever and push downwards.
- **Always** ensure the legrest is fully retracted before exiting the chair.



GE-II Gas Action Version Tilt-in-Space

To facilitate the tilt-in-space motion on the GE-II with Gas Action adjustment:

- Locate the lever on the push handle on the rear of the chair and squeeze towards the push handle.
- Gently apply downward pressure on the push handle to tilt the chair backwards or lift the chair upwards whilst squeezing the lever to raise the chair.
- At any point during the upward or downward tilt motion the lever can be released and the chair will assume 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 that a correct and comfortable posture is assumed.



k

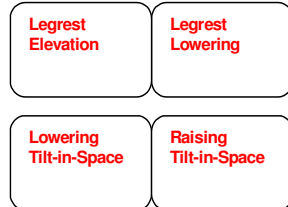
Stretching of the cable

- After significant use the lever action may become loose indicating that the cable has stretched.
- To tighten the cable on the GE-II 400/450 version there is a small silver knob on the cable to the right of the lever – turn this downwards to tighten the cable tension.
- On the GE-II 500/550 version there are two small silver knobs for the cable tension adjustment. These are located on the cables to the sides of the levers. They turn in opposite directions to increase the cable tension. The right hand adjustment knob should be turned downwards and the lever on the left hand side should be turned upwards.

GE-II Electric Version Tilt-in-Space & Legrest Elevation

The GE-II Electric enables either the carer or the user, where appropriate, to adjust the Tilt-in-Space facility and/or the elevating legrest by the simple touch of a button.

Electric Hand Controller Buttons



Regulated Motion Version Tilt-in-Space & Legrest Elevation

Regulated Motion has been incorporated into one of the three versions of the GE-II chair range to create the ultimate pressure management chair.

The six buttoned hand controller is programmed to ensure the Tilt-in-Space has "Regulated Motion" or the ability to move over a set range automatically adjusting the Tilt-in-Space. The pattern of movement is set to repeat to ensure motion over a period of time within a specified tilt range.

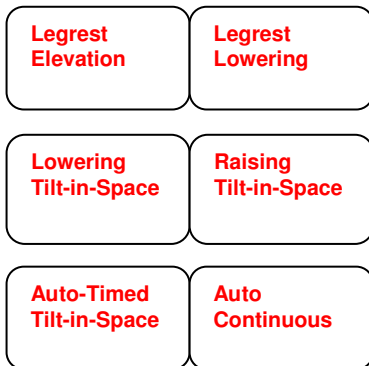
There are two time modes:

- Auto Timed over an 80 minute cycle, or
- Auto Continuous

As a guide the Tilt-in-Space cycle takes approximately 20 minutes to complete 15° of movement in one direction. It can be started at any angle except between 35° and fully reclined.

Regulated Motion Version (continued)

Regulated Motion Hand Controller Buttons



Seat Length Adjustment (standard on all GE-II versions)

If the legrest is regularly used at 90° to the seat then a clearance of 25mm or one inch between the front of the seat cushion and the calf is desirable when the user is firmly against the back of the seat. If the legrest is generally used elevated, then the optimum seat length is when the calf touches the legrest cushion.

- To **adjust**, go to the rear of the chair and undo the butterfly knob under the seat.
- Take hold of the metal bar at the rear of the chair behind the seat and slide the complete assembly backwards and/or forwards to the desired length.
- Tighten the knob ensuring the seat is fully secured after adjusting.

Footboard Height Adjustment (standard on all GE-II versions)

It is important to try to support the whole foot from heel to toe with the thighs evenly distributed on the seat cushion to ensure the least possible pressure directly behind the knee.

- The complete footboard assembly slides up and down the front tubes. It is easily adjusted by using spring pull “snaps”.

- To locate the “snaps” on the footrest, tilt the footboard upwards and pull out both pins.
- Slide the footboard up or down as required and allow the pins to click back into the required hole.

Footboard Angle Adjustment (standard for all GE-II versions)

The angle of the footboard can be adjusted to two different settings—90° for central foot support and 120° to allow leg relaxation.

Pull out the “snap” adjusters located on either side of the footboard; the footboard will automatically drop forwards to 120° angle. The pins snap back into place to retain 90° positioning when raised.

The footboard can also be completely folded up towards the legrest to enable exiting the chair without standing on the footboard.

Adjustable Lateral Supports (standard on all GE-II versions)

The Adjustable Lateral Supports have a unique helical motion designed to offer support in two positions. In the upper position they provide lateral support to the arms and shoulders. In the lower position they provide support primarily to the ‘wings’ of the pelvis (the iliac crest, or the hips) and to the rib cage.

To alter their position:

- Locate the knobs at the back of the chair behind the tubes where the lateral supports are inserted
- Unwind them all the way and either press down onto the lateral supports to push them down and inside the armrests or pull them upwards all the way until they stop.
- Turn the knobs clockwise to lock the lateral supports in position.

Every individual requires different levels of support and the decision on which position to set the armrests should be made on a case by case basis.



Articulating Backrest (standard on all GE-II versions)

The articulating headrest is an integral part of the back of the GE-II.

Research has shown that the position and orientation of the head is important with tilt-in-space. Simply rotating the head forwards is not ideal as this causes too much flexion (bend) in the neck which could become uncomfortable over time.

The GE-II has an articulating backrest that improves head position by sharing the flexion (curve) across the entire spine.

It is recommended that the backrest is articulated after the patient has been tilted in the chair. To adjust the articulating backrest:

- Locate the knob just below the push handles to the right. Turn it to the left to loosen it.
- Move the upper part of the backrest to the desired position.
- Turn the knob to the right to lock it in position.

k

Leg Laterals (accessory for all GE-II versions)

The Leg Laterals are one complete unit that slides onto the legrest assembly.

The footboard must be removed before attempting to fix the Leg Laterals to the legrest assembly.

- To remove the footboard assembly retract the spring pull “snaps”. Slide the footboard down and off the legrest assembly.
- Pull out the “snaps” on the Leg Lateral unit. Align the unit with the legrest assembly and slide the Leg Lateral unit up the legrest to the desired position. Ensure the zips of the lateral pads are on the underside of the Leg Lateral Unit to guarantee it has been put on the correct way.
- Locate the pins into the correct positioning holes and click the “snaps” into a firm fixing.

GE-II Headrests

The headrest can be removed, if required, by loosening the velcro attachment strap at the back of the chair and remove.

Reattach by lifting the label at the rear of the chair and fastening the headrest strap to the velcro underneath the label.

Headcap (accessory for all GE-II versions)

The headcap is a protective covering that slides over the top of the chair to cover the headrest area. The headrest must be removed before fitting the headcap over the top of the chair.

Laminated Tray with Straps (accessory for all GE-II versions)

The tray rests across the two armrests of the GE-II. 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 them in place with the flip lock.

The tray must be removed before attempting to exit the chair by lifting the clamp and releasing the webbing strap.

Wheels

The GE-II chairs are fitted with two 100mm fully locking wheels at the rear of the chair that will not roll or swivel when activated (**not** the Large Wheel version).

- To **apply** the brakes, press down on the front edge of the ridged pad on each wheel. The brakes should be applied during all transfer operations.
- To **unlock** the brakes, push down the top edge of the ridged pad until it is level with the rest of the wheel.
- Always check that wheels are not locked before moving the chair.

For **Large Wheel GE-II** chairs, press down on the spring-loaded brake bar to apply the brakes and flick back up with your foot to unlock the brakes.

5th Wheel

(not large wheel version)

The 5th Wheel is an accessory to the GE-II range and can be fitted retrospectively, however this will require the assistance of trained personnel to assist.

If the 5th Wheel was inclusive with the original order then no set-up or future actions with the exception of cleaning should be required (see Care & Maintenance).

Care and Maintenance

Battery Care (GE-II Electric and Regulated Motion chairs only)

The battery is charged through the handset using the power pack that is included with the chair. The power pack should be plugged into the mains socket and then attached to the hand control unit.

It is recommended that the battery is charged overnight if used during the day to ensure the battery is topped up regularly.

IMPORTANT—The charger should not be attached when the chair is in use.

For recommended care, cleaning and maintenance, please refer also to the care and maintenance guidelines enclosed with your chair and the care label fixed to your chair.

General Care

- Wipe down framework with soapy water and a soft cloth.
- Check castors regularly for build up of fluff and dirt particles.
- Cleaning with scouring pads is not advised.

Cleaning Instructions

Enduralex Prarie Moleskin Vinyl

Enduralex fabrics are protected by 'Produractec-C' lacquer coating and are resistant to every day wear and contact with mild acids, alkali, drinks, household stains.

- If used in a hospital, follow your hospital/trust cleaning directives.
- 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 solvents, bleaches, abrasives, synthetic detergents, wax polishes or aerosol sprays.

Chieftain Vinyl

- Clean with a damp soapy cloth and rinse well with clean water. A soft brush can be used for heavy soiling.
- Do not use solvents, bleaches, abrasives, synthetic detergents, wax polishes or aerosol sprays.

Dartex

- If used in a hospital, follow your hospital/trust cleaning directives.
- Clean superficial dirt using a disposable wipe and a warm solution of neutral detergent or an organic solvent for stubborn stains.
- Alcohol wipes
- Sporidical wipes
- Chlorine disinfectants at 1000ppm
- Clor-clean
- Pressurised steam
- **Never** use abrasive cleansers.
- Rinse with clean water after use of chlorine disinfectants
- Dry fabric before re-use or storage.



Potential Risks, Cautions & Warnings

- The user is at risk if the GE-II is not properly specified and adjusted to their particular requirements.
- **Never** leave anyone with poor postural sitting ability in a fully upright position as they may tip forwards and out of the chair.
- It is recommended that the tilt-in-space is changed at regular intervals to reduce the risk of pressure sores. The Regulated Motion version can automate this process.
- **Never** allow the legrest to be used as a seat, nor allow the chair to be pushed along by it. This may cause damage to the legrest mechanism.
- **Do not** stand on the footboard as this may cause the chair to become unstable and tip forwards.
- **Always** retract the footboard and lower the legrest before returning the chair to its fully upright position. This will allow the user to stand up from the chair with ease without damaging the footboard on the floor as the chair moves forward.
- **Do not** try to push down the legrest without utilising the gas action lever or the powered handset as appropriate as this may damage the mechanism.
- **Do not** try moving the chair without first ensuring that all wheels are unlocked.
- **Do not** sit on the arms as this can cause damage to the covering and could make the stability of the chair unsafe.
- Users should be **regularly** checked and supervised when in the chair to mitigate the user moving or sliding into an inappropriate position.
- Care should be taken when adjusting the chair not to trap fingers or clothing in the framework.
- **Occasionally electrical products are subject to electrical power surges therefore we recommend purchasing a power surge protector. These can be purchased from most major hardware or electrical suppliers.**

Helpline

Should you have any concerns either pre or post purchase of the chair contact our Customer Services Team on **Freephone 0800 212709** or from outside the UK **+44 (0) 1440 705352** to discuss further. Alternatively, if you purchased your chair from a Kirton distributor in the first instance please contact your point of reference there.

If your call concerns a specific seating product or item of furniture please have ready your sales order number before you telephone. This can be located on the base of each chair and helps us identify your details and deal with your enquiry efficiently.



23 Rookwood Way
Haverhill
Suffolk
CB9 8PB
England

Telephone: +44 (0)1440 705352
Fax: +44 (0)1440 706521
Freephone: 0800 212709

Email: info@kirtonhealthcare.co.uk
www.kirton-healthcare.co.uk

