

## **Why Cleaning Your Wheelchair Matters**

We know your wheelchair is more than just equipment – it's part of your daily life. Like anything used every day, it collects dirt and germs. What you may not see are biofilms — microscopic, sticky layers of bacteria and fungi that build up on surfaces. These can cause serious health issues if not properly removed.

## What The Latest Research Tells Us

- Germs can survive for weeks in biofilms on wheelchairs and mobility equipment.
- Wiping alone is not effective against biofilms.
- Regular deep cleaning significantly lowers the risk of infections and keeps equipment in good condition.

## Why It's Important

Even if your wheelchair is only used by you, it still collects germs from daily use. Without cleaning, this can increase the risk of:

- Skin infections
- Urinary tract infections
- Respiratory illnesses

Keeping your equipment clean protects your health – especially if you have a lowered immune system.

## Simple Steps

- Wipe down handles, hand-rims, armrests and straps regularly.
- We recommend a weekly clean at home, using Pure One Enzyme products. They are proven to tackle biofilms, are safe for sensitive people, children and pets and are all natural and eco-friendly.
- Use recommended cleaning products safe for your chair. Antibacterial wipes are a great, easy and affordable option for everyday wiping and spot cleaning.
- Take off your seat cushion cover and gentle machine wash each week. Ask your OT to order you a second cover so you can rotate them and always have a fresh one ready to go.
- The underside of cushions can become damp, encouraging microbial growth. Lift and air your cushion each day if possible.
- Schedule regular deep cleaning with a specialist professional service.

For advice, information, resources, training and to book regular deep cleaning: call 1300 037 877 or go to www.purewheelchairs.com.au