Can any physical therapist provide a Wheelchair Assessment?
Competent assessments are performed by specialists. Gaylord’s Wheelchair Assessment Service is operated by registered physical therapists who are certified Assistive Technology Professionals with advanced training in seating and positioning.

How do I determine if I need a Wheelchair Assessment?
If you feel your mobility is limited by a change in function, or your current equipment is outdated or in disrepair, you may benefit from an evaluation.

Will my medical insurance cover services?
Wheelchair Assessment Services are covered by most commercial insurances, as well as Medicare and Medicaid. Gaylord staff will work with you to verify benefit coverage or to discuss treatment costs that may not be covered by insurance.

What if I am already involved with other medical providers?
Wheelchair Assessment Service at Gaylord is unique and highly regarded throughout Connecticut. Gaylord staff frequently coordinates care with other medical providers by making recommendations to your current team. Many physicians will refer a patient for new seating options while continuing current treatment.

What else does Gaylord Specialty Healthcare offer?
Gaylord Hospital is a specialty hospital that provides inpatient care for complex medical patients needing intensive rehabilitation.
Gaylord Outpatient Services provides physiatry (physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians), physical, aquatic, occupational and speech therapies, psychology, nutrition services as well as the Gaylord Hearing Center and the Center for Concussion Care.

Referrals and Appointments
Appointment requests are available online at outpatientscheduling@gaylord.org or by calling the number below. For more information on services and locations, visit us at www.gaylord.org.

Location
Gaylord Hospital and Gaylord Outpatient Services
50 Gaylord Farm Road
Wallingford, CT 06492
(203) 284-2705 Information
(203) 741-3327 Appointments
(203) 294-8705 Fax
www.gaylord.org

Use the Main Entrance indicating Outpatient Services at Jackson Pavilion.
The Gaylord Advantage

A Wheelchair Assessment Service (WAS) appointment consists of a comprehensive evaluation by certified Assistive Technology Professionals (ATP) to assess the following areas:

- Goals and needs of the equipment user
- Current and previous equipment
- Functional abilities
- Environments in which the equipment will be used in including home, work and school
- Physical assessment including skin and soft tissue, passive range of motion, tone, active movement, pain, posture, balance, sensation and endurance

Through this evaluation, the goals of the seating and mobility system are determined. Extensive equipment simulation is then performed to assist the wheelchair user and clinicians in equipment selection.

Gaylord’s WAS clinicians work closely with equipment manufacturers to ensure that a wide variety of state-of-the-art equipment options are available for wheelchair users to trial. The clinicians stay abreast of ongoing developments in federal legislation affecting mobility equipment, in order to make appropriate recommendations.

WHEELCHAIR ASSESSMENT SERVICE

About Wheelchair Assessment

Mobility is crucial to our total well-being. An optimally-prescribed wheelchair and seating system can help a wheelchair user achieve independence and wellness.

Gaylord’s WAS evaluates clients for mobility devices, including manual wheelchairs, scooters, power wheelchairs and also custom seat cushions and back supports.

WAS is coordinated by registered physical therapists with advanced training in seating and positioning. Rehab Technology Suppliers are present at evaluations to assist in equipment selection and to provide the equipment to a wheelchair user. The ultimate goals for the session include:

- Maximize independence with mobility.
- Recommend equipment that is functional, safe and comfortable.
- Improve posture and function while seated in a wheelchair.
- Preventing secondary complications, such as orthopedic deformity, loss of skin integrity, pain and depression.

Satisfaction Counts

Every patient who rated our services in 2015 gave us 100% satisfaction with their experience, including overall visit, Gaylord therapist and their vendor.

Additional Services include:

- Computerized pressure mapping assessments to determine how to provide optimal pressure relief while seated in a wheelchair.
- Standing frame evaluations to assess and recommend a standing device for home use.
- Custom molded seat cushion and back support fabrication to accommodate significant postural deviations.

SmartWheel

Gaylord Outpatient Services is the only provider in Connecticut to use the SmartWheel System. SmartWheel technology is used with ultra-lightweight manual wheelchairs and allows an in-depth assessment of the users’ propulsion techniques. The patient uses their current ultra-lightweight wheelchair while connected to the SmartWheel and data is collected and compared to a national database. The physical therapist is then able to provide education and/or modify the wheelchair to facilitate the most efficient propulsion style to minimize risk for repetitive stress injuries.

SmartDrive MX2

SmartDrive acts like cruise control for ultra-lightweight manual wheelchairs. This battery powered device weighs almost half that of traditional power assist wheels and is easily attached to approved chairs. SmartDrive helps to provide assistance to power up hills, through thick carpet, can decrease wrist and shoulder overuse injuries, and allows the user to travel miles on one fully charged battery. Our ATP can assess your needs, determine if this technology may be appropriate and provide a demonstration of the device during your WAS evaluation.

www.gaylord.org