Proper Wheelchair Fit
Standard W/C measurements for Proper Fit

- **Seat Height / Leg Length**
  - Measure from the user’s heel to the popliteal fold and add 2 inches to allow clearance of the footrest
  - Average adult size = 19.5 to 20.5 inches
Did you fit it properly?

- **Seat Height / Leg Length**
  - The bottom of the footrest is 2 inches from the floor
  - You can fit 2-3 fingers under the distal thigh (between the thigh and the seat)
Standard W/C measurements for Proper Fit

- **Seat Depth**
  - Measure from the user’s posterior buttock, along the lateral thigh to the popliteal fold; then subtract 2 inches to avoid pressure from the front edge of the seat against the popliteal space
  - Average adult size = 16 inches
Did you fit it properly?

- **Seat Depth**
  - You can fit 3-4 fingers between the front edge of the seat and the patient’s popliteal fold with your palm horizontal to the seat.
Standard W/C measurements for Proper Fit

- **Seat Width**
  - Measure the widest aspect of the user’s buttocks, hips or thighs and add 2 inches. This will provide space for bulky clothing, orthoses or clearance of trochanters from the armrest side panel
  - Average adult size = 18 inches
Did you fit it properly?

- **Seat Width**
  - You should be able to place your hand between the patient’s trochanter, hip or thigh and the armrest panels with your hand positioned vertically to the seat, with slight contact to both.
  - Both hands should be used at the same time.
Standard W/C measurements for Proper Fit

- **Back Height**
  - Measure from the seat of the chair to the floor of the axilla with the user’s shoulder flexed to 90, then subtract 4 inches. This will allow the final back height to be below the inferior angles of the scapula. (If a seat cushion is used…)
  - Average adult size = 16 – 16.5 inches
Did you fit it properly?

- **Back Height**
  - The inferior angles of the scapula should be approx. 1 finger-breadth above the back upholstery when the patient sits with erect posture.
Standard W/C measurements for Proper Fit

- **Armrest Height**
  - Measure from the seat of the chair to the olecranon process with the user’s elbow flexed to 90, then add 1 inch.
  - (If a seat cushion is used…)
  - Average adult size = 9 inches above the chair seat
Did you fit it properly?

- **Armrest Height**
  - The patient should be able to sit erect, with level shoulders when bearing weight on the forearms as they rest on the armrest
Questions??
