

# **MULTIFUNCTIONAL BACK**

User manual

# AVAILABLE STANDARD MODEL



Multifunctional Back

# AVAILABLE STANDARD SIZES

INCH
14½x18
16½x18
18½x18
14¾x21½
16x21½
18x21½
20x21½

\* Width x Height

Specials and custom made products on request.



fig. A



fia. B

#### INTRODUCTION

Your Vicair® Academy Multi Functional Back is designed to be used as described in this manual. Please read the whole manual before use.

The system consists of the following parts:

#### Inner cushion

The inner cushion is made up of zippered compartments. Each compartment is filled with a specific number of triangular, air filled SmartCells™. Strips of Velcro tape are fitted on the back of the cushion cover to attach it to the wheelchair back shell.

#### **Outer cover**

The outer cover is made of Comfair, a breathable fabric which is two-way stretchable. The outer cover is zipped onto the inner cushion.

#### ASSEMBLY

Vicair recommends to assemble, install and adjust the Academy Multi Functional Back cushion under the direct supervision of your therapist or dealer.

#### Checking the size

Together with your therapist or dealer, make sure the system fits the dimensions of your body and your wheelchair. The system should match the width of the wheelchair seat, and the dimensions of the back shell of your wheelchair.

#### Fitting the cushion onto the back shell

- Remove the clear plastic wrapper from the cushion.
- Make sure the inside of the back shell is clean.
- Remove the protective backing tape from the self-adhesive Velcro strips (fig. A).
- Place the cushion in the back shell and push it firmly into position. Make sure the label faces down (fig. B).
- To remove the cushion from the back shell, simply pull it off the Velcro strips.

#### INSTALLATION

- Sit in the wheelchair for a few minutes, to allow the back cushion to adapt to your body shape.
- With the aid of your therapist or dealer, adjust the filling of the cushion.

## Checking for "bottoming out"

Your back and spine should not touch the bottom of the cushion or the sides of the shell. Checking for "bottoming out" should be done during first use and after adjustments to the cushion filling.

- Sit with your back against the cushion for approximately 5 minutes.
- Lean slightly forward in your wheelchair seat.
- Let your therapist or dealer slide a hand between the cushion and your back.
- Make sure your back is supported by at least one full layer of SmartCells™.
- Do not use the cushion if bottoming out occurs. In most cases, adjusting the filling grade of the compartments will solve the problem.

#### Adjusting the cushion filling

Each Vicair cushion has its own unique filling grade depending on size and model. If necessary, the filling grade of the cushion can be adjusted by removing or adding  $SmartCells^{TM}$  from the various compartments of the cushion.

You can find the default filling grade on the label that is attached to the inner cover.

#### **Stability**

Using the Academy Multi Functional Back may affect the static and dynamic behaviour of the wheelchair. Check and test the balance and stability of the wheelchair with the aid of your therapist or dealer.

#### USE

#### Checking for redness of the skin

Check your skin regularly for redness, especially during the first few days. If redness occurs and does not disappear after 15 minutes, do not continue to use the cushion. Consult your therapist or dealer.

#### Use at high altitude

Because each SmartCell™ is filled with air, the cushion may behave differently when used at high altitude or in an aeroplane. Under such circumstances, the cushion's firmness can be adjusted by removing a few cells from each compartment. Vicair recommends not to use the cushion above 2400 m (8000 ft) ASL (above sea level).

#### Use in motor vehicles

No testing data are currently available about the safe use of the Vicair® Academy Multi Functional Back cushion in motor vehicles. Therefore we do not encourage using the cushion in motor vehicles.

#### Transferring the cushion to another user

Before allowing a second person to use the cushion, clean the inner cushion and wash the outer cover. Disinfect both parts. Make sure the cushion is correctly adjusted to the second person.

#### Replacing the outer cover

Under normal use, Vicair recommends to replace the outer cover every year. Replacement covers can be purchased separately.

#### **Flammability**

Do not use or leave the Academy Multi Functional Back cushion close to a naked flame or a high temperature heat source.

#### MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING

Caution: Do not steam clean or autoclave the cushion. The cushion cannot withstand excessive heat or pressure.

## Checking for wear and deflated cells

Every three months, check the cushion for wear and deflated cells. In case of serious damage, or a large number of deflated cells, do not continue to use the cushion. Consult your dealer.

## Cleaning the inner cushion

- Wipe the inner cushion with a damp cloth using a mild detergent. Difficult spots or stains can be cleaned by first saturating the spot and then using a soft brush to loosen the dirt.
- If it is necessary to remove the cells for cleaning, note the number of cells in each compartment.
- Do not use aggressive or abrasive cleaners, or sharp objects to clean the inner cushion.
- Do not immerse the inner cushion in water or any other liquid.
- Do not wash the filled inner cushion, or the cells, in a washing machine.

#### Cleaning the outer cover

The outer cover can be machine washed inside-out. See the instructions on the label attached to the inside of the cover.

#### Disinfecting the cushion

In case of soiling with body fluids, and when transferring the cushion to another user, the cushion must be disinfected to avoid cross contamination.

- Clean the inner cushion and the outer cover as described above. When washing the outer cover, preferably use an anti-bacterial agent.
- Spray disinfectant on the outer cover and the inner cushion. Bend the compartments outwards to make sure that the spray mist gets into the gaps.

#### WARRANTY

Vicair offers a limited warranty against defects in workmanship and materials for a period of two (2) years from the original date of purchase, provided the product has been used normally. Any damage arising from abnormal use, or caused by improper handling, cleaning or negligence is excluded from this warranty. Should a defect in materials or workmanship occur within two (2) years from the original date of purchase, Vicair will, at its own choice, repair or replace the product free of charge. The outer cover is excluded from this warranty.

Remedies for breach of express warranties herein are limited to repair or replacement of the product. In no event shall damages for breach of any warranty include any consequential damages or exceed the cost of non-conforming goods sold.

For additional product information, see our website: www.vicair.com.