

Medical Device Alert

Action

Ref: MDA/2011/030 Issued: 29 March 2011 at 14:30

Device

Action 3 Junior manual wheelchairs manufactured by Invacare.

Serial numbers from 050714224781 to 051021027909 (inclusive) fitted with the attendant push bar.



Problem

Failure of the push bar clamping brackets, resulting in a loss of control and the potential for serious injury to the user or attendant.

Invacare has issued a [Field Safety Notice \(FSN035\)](#), but so far has been unable to trace all users, especially where the push bar assemblies have been supplied as spare parts.

Action by

All those involved in provision, use and maintenance of these wheelchairs. In particular: wheelchair service managers, rehabilitation engineers, maintenance staff and contractors, and occupational and wheelchair therapists.

Action

- Trace affected wheelchairs.
- Trace push bar assemblies supplied as spare parts before 6 October 2010.
- Obtain push bar assembly upgrade kits (kit number 1545634) from Invacare and arrange for them to be fitted.

CAS deadlines

Action underway: 3 May 2011

Action complete: 4 July 2011

Contact

Manufacturer
 Technical Services Department
 Invacare
 Tel: 01656 776 333
 Fax: 01656 776 330
 Email: UK@invacare.com

Distribution

This MDA has been sent to:

- NHS trusts in England (Chief Executives)
- HSC trusts in Northern Ireland (Chief Executives)
- NHS boards in Scotland (Equipment Co-ordinators)
- NHS boards in Wales (Chief Executives)
- OFSTED (Directors of Children's Services) for information
- Primary care trusts in England (Chief Executives)
- Social services in England (Directors)
- Local Authorities in Scotland (Equipment Co-ordinators)

Onward distribution

Please bring this notice to the attention of relevant employees in your establishment. Below is a suggested list of recipients.

Trusts

CAS and SABS (NI) liaison officers for onward distribution to all relevant staff including:

- Equipment store managers
- Maintenance staff and contractors
- Occupational therapists
- Paediatric departments
- Physiotherapists
- Rehabilitation engineers
- Risk managers
- Wheelchair and seating service managers

Primary care trusts

CAS liaison officers for onward distribution to all relevant staff including:

- Community children's nurses
- Equipment store managers
- Maintenance staff and contractors
- Occupational therapists
- Physiotherapists
- Rehabilitation engineers
- Risk managers
- Wheelchair and seating service managers

Social services

Liaison officers for onward distribution to all relevant staff including:

- Children's disability services
- Equipment store managers
- Maintenance staff and contractors
- Occupational therapists
- Wheelchair and seating service managers

Independent distribution

Establishments registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) (England only)

This alert should be read by:

- Care homes providing nursing care (children)
- Care homes providing personal care (children)
- Hospitals in the independent sector

Establishments registered with OFSTED

This alert should be read by:

- Educational establishments with facilities for wheelchair users
- Residential special schools

Please note: CQC and OFSTED do not distribute these alerts. Independent healthcare providers and social care providers can sign up to receive MDAs directly from the Department of Health's Central Alerting System (CAS) by sending an email to: safetyalerts@dh.gsi.gov.uk and requesting this facility.

Contacts

Manufacturer

Technical Services
Invacare Limited
Pencoed Technology Park
Pencoed
Bridgend
CF35 5HZ

Tel: 01656 776 333
Fax: 01656 776 330
Email: UK@invacare.com

England

If you are in England, please send enquiries about this notice to the MHRA, quoting reference number **MDA/2011/030** or **2009/011/005/081/023**

Ed Ball or James McVeigh
Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
Centre for Assistive Technology
241 Bristol Avenue
Bispham
Blackpool FY2 0BR

Tel: 01253 596 000
Fax: 01253 596 177
Email: bav@mhra.gsi.gov.uk

How to report adverse incidents

Please report via our website <http://www.mhra.gov.uk>
Further information about **CAS** can be found at <https://www.cas.dh.gov.uk/Home.aspx>

Northern Ireland

Alerts in Northern Ireland will continue to be distributed via the NI SABS system.
Enquiries and adverse incident reports in Northern Ireland should be addressed to:

Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre
Health Estates Investment Group
Room 17
Annex 6
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Dundonald BT4 3SQ

Tel: 02890 523 704
Fax: 02890 523 900
Email: NIAIC@dhsspsni.gov.uk
<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/hea/niaic.htm>

How to report adverse incidents in Northern Ireland

Please report directly to NIAIC, further information can be found on our website <http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/niaic>

Further information about **SABS** can be found at <http://sabs.dhsspsni.gov.uk/>

Scotland

Enquiries and adverse incident reports in Scotland should be addressed to:

Incident Reporting and Investigation Centre

Health Facilities Scotland

NHS National Services Scotland

Gyle Square

1 South Gyle Crescent

Edinburgh EH12 9EB

Tel: 0131 275 7575

Fax: 0131 314 0722

Email: nss.irc@nhs.net

<http://www.hfs.scot.nhs.uk/online-services/incident-reporting-and-investigation-centre-irc/>

Wales

Enquiries in Wales should be addressed to:

Dr Sara Hayes

Senior Medical Officer

Medical Device Alerts

Welsh Assembly Government

Cathays Park

Cardiff CF10 3NQ

Tel: 029 2082 3922

Email: Haz-Aic@wales.gsi.gov.uk

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