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# Wheelchair Skills Assessment and Training

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*To*

*Patty and the Wheelchair Research Team*

*For*

*People who use wheelchairs, their caregivers,  
and their healthcare workers*



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Some of the wheelchair skills addressed in this book can be dangerous and may result in severe injury or death if attempted without the assistance of trained personnel. Attempting these skills may not be appropriate for some wheelchair users or caregivers. If the skills are attempted for assessment or training purposes, one or more experienced spotters should be available to intervene. The ultimate responsibility for safety during the performance of wheelchair skills lies with the person performing the skills. Even if a spotter acts according to instructions, injuries can occur. Safely performing a skill in the supervised Wheelchair Skills Program (WSP) context provides no guarantee that the same or similar skills will be performed safely on other occasions.

The information in this book is provided for information and educational purposes only. The information is not intended to be and does not constitute health-care advice. Any decision concerning the health, treatment, and/or wheelchair of a wheelchair user or caregiver should be made in consultation with a qualified healthcare professional. The members of the team who developed the WSP, the members of the Editorial Committee, Dalhousie University, and the Nova Scotia Health Authority are not responsible for any injuries or deaths arising from the use of the WSP materials. Users of these materials assume full responsibility for their actions.

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# List of abbreviations

<b>CG</b>	Caregiver
<b>GAS</b>	Goal Attainment Score
<b>NP</b>	Not possible
<b>RAD</b>	Rear anti-tip device
<b>SCI</b>	Spinal cord injury
<b>SU</b>	Scooter user
<b>TE</b>	Testing error
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>WC</b>	Wheelchair
<b>WCU</b>	Wheelchair user
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>WSP</b>	Wheelchair Skills Program
<b>WST</b>	Wheelchair Skills Test
<b>WSTP</b>	Wheelchair Skills Training Program
<b>WST-Q</b>	Questionnaire version of the WST



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