



Bariatric Seating
reference guide



COMFORT AND SAFETY FOR BARIATRIC SEATING USERS

Waiting spaces for patients, families and staff members need to be designed to welcome people of all sizes, regardless of body type. Beyond the consideration of physical size, design should also consider the dignity of all users. Good design of both product and space will accommodate everyone and provide solutions that emphasize the similarities among people.

Bariatric seating is an important option in any waiting environment, and understanding how the product performs to meet the users' needs is necessary to insure their comfort and safety.

About Critical Load Testing

One critical indicator of a chair's performance is load test results. There are two terms to describe the load testing — static load and dynamic load. Both of these tests provide good information when evaluated against like data.

Static load tests place a single large weight on the chair seat for a set period of time with no additional force or movement applied. Although the resulting numbers are typically quite substantial, they do not represent how the product is actually used. People don't gently sit on furniture—they use the arms and back to aid their entry and exit in the chair, and they move in the chair even after they are seated—and they do it more than once.

Dynamic load tests combine both the weight and the motion of sitting to represent a more realistic situation. Dynamic testing not only tests the repeated "in and out" load in the chair seat, but also the forces applied to the arms and back by people in different postures, to more closely replicate real life. These repeated forces that are applied to the seat, arms and back are a major differentiator between static and dynamic testing.

Bariatric Seating Features and Benefits

Steelcase Health offers bariatric seating solutions in most product lines, all designed to accommodate the needs of guest and patient seating.

- Reinforced construction for strength, durability and stability
- Bariatric guest chairs are available as stand-alone units, or in some products, can be ganged to standard seating units, other bariatric units or tables
- Bariatric seating is available with standard product options: clean-out spaces between seat and back; moisture barrier; finish variety, contrasting textiles, renewable upholstery and components
- Seat widths of 30 inches and 40 inches are available in many seating lines
- Pommel arm design helps users enter and exit the chair
- Bariatric options are designed within families of seating products to ensure a consistent aesthetic and to provide seating solutions for a variety of users

BARIATRIC SEATING AND LOAD TESTING



Aspekt™

Dynamic load: 300 lbs.
Static load: 750 lbs.



Leela™

Dynamic load: 500 lbs.
Static load: 1,000 lbs.



Mitra™

Dynamic load: 300 lbs.
Static load: 750 lbs.



Outlook™ Empress™

Dynamic load: 300 lbs.
Static load: 750 lbs.



Outlook™ Hawthorne™

Dynamic load: 300 lbs.
Static load: 750 lbs.



Outlook™ Jarrah™

Dynamic load: 500 lbs.
Static load: 1,000 lbs.



Outlook™ Nikko™

Dynamic load: 300 lbs.
Static load: 750 lbs.



Outlook™ Sequoia™

Dynamic load: 300 lbs.
Static load: 750 lbs.

BARIATRIC SEATING AND LOAD TESTING



Sieste™

Dynamic load: 500 lbs.
Static load: 1,000 lbs.



Sorrel™

Dynamic load: 300 lbs.
Static load: 750 lbs.



Tava™

Dynamic load: 500 lbs.
Static load: 1,000 lbs.



Regard™

Dynamic load: 500 lbs.
Static load: 1,000 lbs.

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