

Case Study Answers: Module 7 – Postural Intervention

Instructions: Download the case study on Katherine and then answer the questions below.

1. Why would posture be important to Katherine?

- impact on comfort, bladder management, home responsibilities, computer work, school attendance and access to community activities

2. Can you identify the indications that Katherine will require postural intervention in her new wheelchair?

- pressure ulcer, increased pain, replacement of seating and wheeled mobility system

3. What other questions and investigations would you consider to identify postural issues?

- medical, surgical and pressure ulcer histories
- pain and spasm occurrences and management
- weight lost and reasons – likelihood to change
- Katharine's priority on functional tasks
- Katherine's perceptions on what worked and didn't work in her current wheelchair and seating
- Katherine's aesthetics and cosmetic preference towards seating and wheeled mobility
- MAT evaluation, skin checks, body measurement in supine, seating and wheelchair evaluation
- environmental and access and transport considerations

You have completed the seating assessment form part 1-4 and found that:

- ① *Katherine sat with a 50mm right pelvic obliquity, left pelvis rotation, posterior pelvic tilt, left scoliosis apex at lower thoracic, lateral flexion of the neck toward left.*
- ① *she had good flexibility for neutral alignment in the pelvic tilt, lower extremities and trunk in supine*
- ① *she had significant weight lost last 3 years*
- ① *her seat and cushion width was too wide for her in comparison to body measurement*
- ① *she utilised a single valve low profile air filled cushion*

4. What are the postural goals of postural intervention when selecting trial products?

- to provide a stable base of support at the pelvis
- to provide a seating system that matches the client's body size



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MQ7A.1 Case Study Answers Module 7**

- to provide adequate postural support to match the client's body shape for optimal skeletal alignment. This includes correction of right pelvic obliquity, left pelvis rotation, posterior pelvic tilt, left scoliosis apex at lower thoracic, lateral flexion of the neck
- to facilitate optimal functional abilities and environmental access

5. What should the trial be covering?

- time duration
- daily / regular functional task conducted: eg, bladder management
- activities as listed in initial interview
- access to usual environment: school, shops, Taxi
- transfers

6. Who would you consider consulting about Katherine's goals and postural interventions?

- Katherine
- husband
- homecare coordinators / key worker
- Spinal Seating Services
- Spinal Outpatient Clinics
- Spinal Pressure / Plastic Clinics
- dietician
- physiotherapist
- occupational therapist
- suppliers