Child wheelchair
Country of origin: Israel

Health problem addressed
About 70 million people have different health conditions ranging from spinal cord injury to birth defects requiring a wheelchair for mobility. Among them, only 5-15% have access to one and out of this population, 25% are children with disabilities. Wheelchairs can assist these children to be mobile, independent and healthy.

Product description
The wheelchair consists of two large rear wheels with pushrims, two small swiveling front wheels (castors), a metallic frame, plastic seat, footrest and a cushion. It is modular in design, its components come in three separate boxes and need to be assembled as per the need of the child.

Product functionality
The user sits in the wheelchair and can move around manually by pushing the pushrims. It fosters independence and social integration and allows the child to leave the house, access education, and be like other children.

Developer’s claims of products benefits
Most of the available wheelchairs in the world are for adults. Available child wheelchairs are often the miniature size of adult wheelchairs without valuing children’s needs and preferences. This product has been specifically designed for children. The wheelchair is lightweight but durable, low-cost and can be assembled locally. It requires low maintenance and is very attractive to children due to its design and colour.

Development stage
The wheelchair was developed and assessed according to DIN ISO 7176 and the WHO “Guidelines on the provision of manual wheelchairs in less-resourced settings”.

Future work and challenges
To establish collaboration with local NGOs and governmental organizations to support training and distribution, to provide training to rehabilitation teams and to raise funds to support the wheelchair’s production and distribution.

Use and maintenance
User: Self-use
Training: 1 day training by physiotherapist, occupational therapist or rehabilitation teams
Maintenance: Monthly adjustments of screws

Environment of use
Settings: Rural, urban, ambulatory, at home, primary (health post, health center), secondary (general hospital), tertiary (specialized hospital)
Requirements: Trained clinical/technical personnel to assemble the wheelchair

Product specifications
Dimensions (mm): 800 x 400 x 740
Weight (kg): 11 with tubeless wheels, 9.5 with pneumatic tube
Consumables: Cushion, accessories
Life time (years): 3
Retail price (USD): 95
List price (USD): 95
Other features: Continuous-use, mobile
Year of commercialization: Anticipated 2014

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