



StairAssist Walker™

Instructions for Use

**CAUTION: INVESTIGATIONAL DEVICE. LIMITED BY FEDERAL
(U.S.) LAW TO INVESTIGATIONAL USE ONLY.**

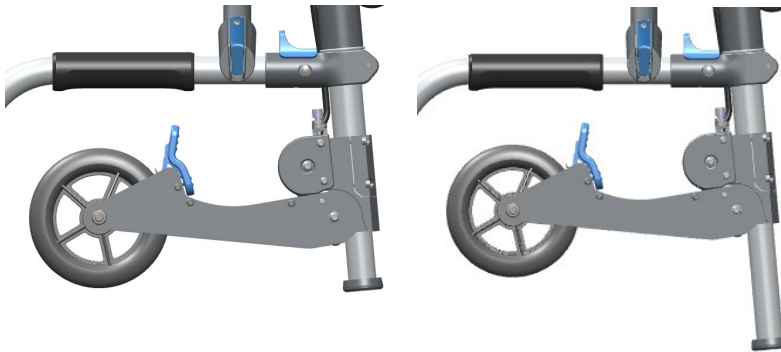
Doc. #0064, REV. C

StairAssist Walker (SAW) is a durable medical equipment (DME) with a dual function (1) as a rolling walker for walking support and (2) as a stair negotiation device. The stair-assist feature must always be used under the supervision of a caregiver. This function supports users in ascending and descending stairs, promoting increased independence and mobility.

Indication for Use: StairAssist Walker is intended to provide moderate weight support while walking and ascending and descending stairs. It is indicated for use by people with compromised functional mobility.

STAIRASSIST WALKER FEATURES

- 1) Stair climbing mode accommodates 6 to 9 inch (15.4 to 22.9cm) stair rise; 9.5 inch (24.1 cm) stair run.



- 2) SAW has a maximum weight limit of 300 lbs (136kg).
- 3) SAW is foldable for transport.



- 4) SAW weight is ~16lbs (~7.2kg).

- 5) SAW handlebars are adjustable from 32" to 36" (81.3 to 91.5cm) to accommodate users ranging in height from 5'2" to 6'0".
- 6) SAW has a backrest and anti-slide bar for comfort and potentially preventing the patient from sliding down the stairs if they were to fall backwards during "stair mode."
- 7) Stair Mode Safety Lock (SMSL) mechanism prevents "stair mode" from being activated while in "walker mode."
- 8) SMSL and Knee Conversion Mechanism (KCM) mechanisms convert StairAssist Walker from a rolling walker (A) to a stair negotiation device (B).

A



B



SAFETY WARNINGS

TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY IN USING THE STAIRASSIST WALKER, THE FOLLOWING SAFETY INFORMATION AND ALL INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE FOLLOWED.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAN LEAD TO SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. FOR SAFETY, THE STAIRASSIST WALKER IS ONLY TO BE USED IN A MANNER AS DEMONSTRATED FOR INTENDED USE.

The potential risks or discomforts associated with the StairAssist Walker and its use include physical discomfort, falling on stairs, or falling on level surfaces. This list of risks may not be complete, and it is possible that unforeseen risks could occur.

To prevent injury or improper use, caregiver assistance is required when using the StairAssist Walker in stair mode. This device is not intended for independent use by the patient on stairs. A caregiver must assist with positioning, operation, and stair navigation to ensure user safety and proper function of the device.

- DO NOT use this device without first reading and understanding the information provided in this user manual. If you are unable to understand the warnings, cautions, or instructions, please consult a healthcare professional, seller, or the company prior to use. Failure to follow instructions may result in injury or damage to the device.
- Ensure that the SMSL and KCM are locked in the upwards position or stair mode prior to use on the stairs.
- DO NOT lean towards the bottom or top of the stairs while using the device in Stair Mode. Doing so may result in a fall or other injury.
- DO NOT engage the SMSL while using the device on the stairs. Doing so may create an imbalance in the device and may result in a fall or other injury.
- DO NOT attempt to use the device on the stairs with the SMSL and KCM locked in the downwards position or walker mode.
- Ensure SMSL is in standby mode or the SMSL key has been removed when not being used on stairs.

CAUTIONS

- Caregiver should be properly trained in the use of the StairAssist Walker
- Use of the device on stairs with one hand railing is required.
- DO NOT roll the walker while the user is sitting on the seat.
- The StairAssist Walker is intended for individual use only and is NOT INTENDED TO BE USED AS A WHEELCHAIR. Do not push the walker while someone is sitting in the seat. Improper use may result in injury or damage to the device.
- DO NOT use the seat to transport people or objects. DO NOT use the seat to carry or move anything.
- DO NOT sit on the walker while it is being loaded into a vehicle or while it is being transported in a vehicle.
- DO NOT use the device to walk backwards, down gradients or to go over obstacles outside of its intended use while in Stair Mode.
- DO NOT sit on the device while it is on a slope.
- The backrest is intended to provide support while sitting and is not intended to support full body weight. Avoid leaning on the backrest as this may result in a fall or other injury.
- Ensure the walker always has four points of contact with a flat surface (rear legs and either front wheels or stair conversion legs) at ALL TIMES when in use. Check that the walker is stable before use. Improper use may result in a fall or other injury.
- DO NOT exceed the maximum weight capacity as doing so may result in an injury. Maximum weight capacity: 300 lbs (136 kg)
- Before each use, ensure the StairAssist Walker frame is fully opened and the seat is securely locked into place.

- DO NOT use the walker if it is damaged or if any of the parts or mechanisms are not functioning properly or missing.
- Care should be taken to ensure that all height adjustment, locks, handles, or any other functional or moving parts are in good working order before operation
- DO NOT hang anything from the walker handles or frame. This may lead to a weight imbalance and cause the walker to tip and may result in injury or damage to the device.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Opening the StairAssist Walker

Unfold the legs and lock them in place by pulling the seat down into the proper position. You will hear an audible “click” when the seat is in its locked position. Before using the walker ensure that all four legs are in contact with the ground and the device is stable.

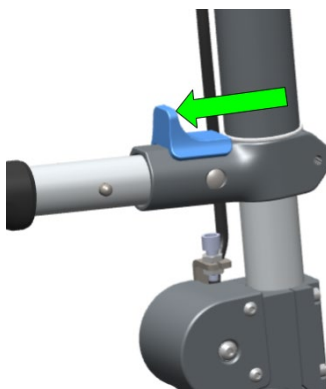
Folding the StairAssist Walker

1. Press the Seat Release Button, as Indicated in the picture by the green arrow.



2. Pull Up on the front of the seat until an audible “click” is heard or felt.

3. On either side of the walker, pull the frame release and fold that side towards the middle of the walker.



4. Repeat the same action on the other side of the walker frame by pulling the frame release and fold towards the middle of the walker.



5. Secure the now folded frame with the provided strap.
6. SAW is now ready for transport.



WALKER MODE

Setting up the StairAssist Walker

1. Healthcare professionals or caregivers should set the walker height based on the height of the patient. With the patient in a standing position with arms by their side, the walker handle should be in line with the wrist crease.
2. Adjust the SAW handle bars by sliding the handle bar adjustment trigger and lifting up or pushing down on the handle bars to ensure the walker handle is in line with the patient's wrist crease.



Using the StairAssist Walker in Walker Mode

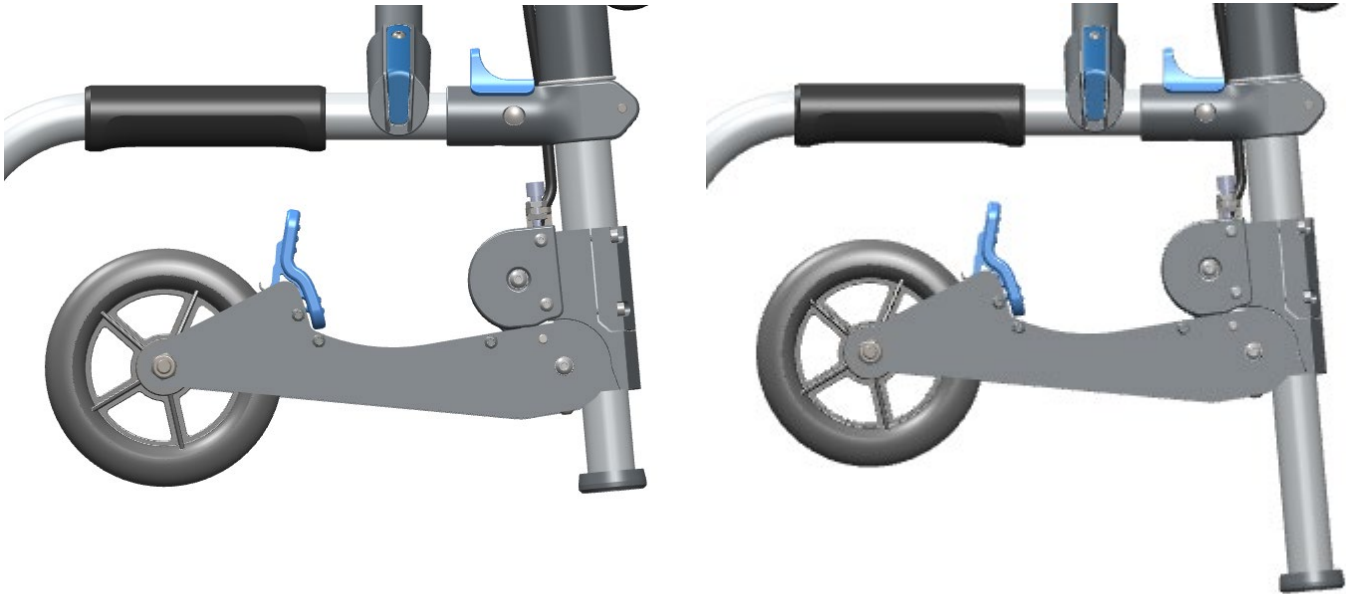
For proper positioning and use of the walker, the caregiver should instruct the patient to grip the handlebars and walk with the device with their hands slightly in front of them.



STAIR MODE

Setting up the StairAssist Walker

1. Prior to using the walker on stairs, the healthcare professional or caregiver should measure the rise (height) of one stair and then adjust the stair accommodation leg by sliding the stair accommodation leg trigger and adjusting the stair accommodation leg to the height of the stairs

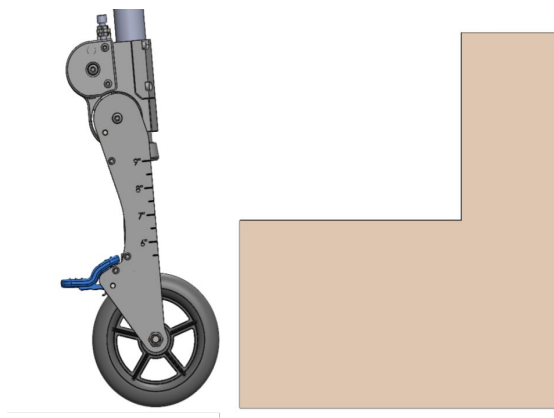


CAUTIONS While Ascending Stairs

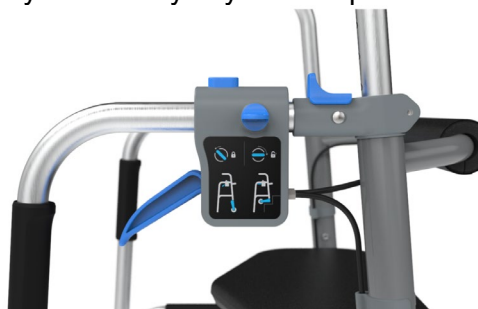
- Only use the walker on the stairs when accompanied by a caregiver. Improper use may result in injury or damage to the device.
- DO NOT lean towards the bottom of the stairs when using the device on the stairs. Doing so may create an imbalance in the device and may result in a fall or other injury.
- DO NOT attempt to use the device on the stairs with the stair conversion mechanism locked in the downwards positions.
- DO NOT engage the Stair Mode Safety Lock while using the device on the stairs. Doing so may create an imbalance in the device and may result in a fall or other injury.

Ascending Stairs Using the StairAssist Walker in Stair Mode (Sitting and Standing Technique) for individuals with a single leg weight bearing precaution or individuals that can sit and stand but are unable to perform stairs

1. Caregiver will be communicating and “guarding” the patient during stair negotiation.
2. Ensure that the walker is properly adjusted to the stairs prior to use.
3. Patient will walk to the base of the stairs using the device.
 - a. It is highly recommended that the patient wears a gait belt when using the StairAssist Walker
4. Once the walker’s wheels are touching the first stair, Caregiver will:
 - a. Measure the stair to the ruler located on the SAW front leg
 - b. Caregiver will lock brakes on wheels prior to stair negotiation

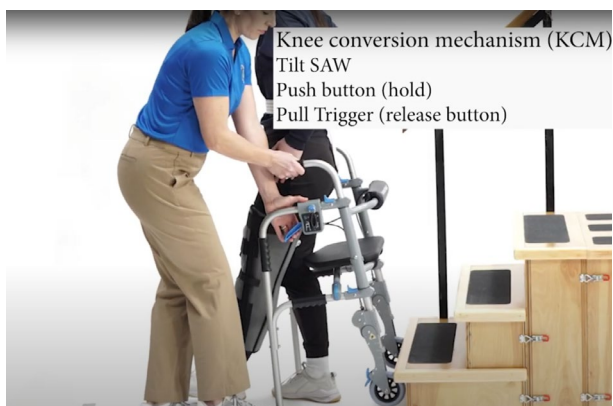


- c. Insert SAW safety key completely until key bottoms out, if not already inserted
- d. Turn the stair mode safety lock safety key to line up with the stair icon



Stair Mode Safety Lock (SMSL)

- 5. Caregiver will turn SMSL safety key to “stair mode”, then tilt the SAW backwards onto the rear foot, push the SMSL button while simultaneously squeezing the SMSL lever until an audible “click” is heard and the KCM visibly converts SAW from “walker mode” to “stair mode.”



6. Caregiver will lift the device so the stair accommodation legs rest at the base of the second stair

Convert StairAssist Walker to "stair mode" and put device on second step



7. Caregiver will adjust handlebars to the very bottom or down position and turn the SMSL key to the standby position. Standby position will not allow conversion from stair mode to walker mode.
8. Patient will grab onto the hand railing and turn themselves around and sit on the seat.

Patient hops or pivots backwards towards stairs, Caregiver holds onto caregiver grips and the patient sits down on seat



9. The patient will move the uninjured leg or stronger leg up to the next step and push themselves towards the seat and sit down (Some people will be able to sit down on the seat without needing to push themselves backwards)

Patient lifts unaffected leg to the first step and stands up and holds onto hand railing and the Caregiver lifts StairAssist up one step



10. Patient should place their foot (of strong leg) or feet on the stair and stand up while holding the frame on the handlebars.
11. Patient will steady themselves on handrailing while the caregiver lifts the device to the next stair and places it as close to the base of the next stair as possible.
12. Caregiver will hold onto the SAW when patient is transferring from standing to sitting and sitting to standing to ensure safety
13. Patient should sit on the seat.
14. Repeat steps 9-13 until the patient reaches the platform at the top of the stairs.
15. Once the stair accommodation legs are on the platform at the top of the staircase, the patient will stand up and hold onto a hand railing. The caregiver will lift the device onto the last step, turn the SMSL key

from “stand by mode” to “stair mode”, tilt the SAW, squeeze the lever and then push the button down on the SMSL to engage the knee conversion mechanism (KCM) into walker mode.



Caregiver lifts SAW up to the top step and tilts SAW towards the patient (bracing with knee) and converts SAW

16. Patient will then sit on the seat and stand up on the last step.



Patient holds onto SAW, sits down on SAW and lifts unaffected leg up one step. Caregiver secures patient and SAW while the Patient stands up

17. When all legs are stable on the platform, turn the stair mode safety key to the walker position.

18. OPTIONAL: Caregiver can now remove stair mode safety key completely from device to disable stair mode.

CAUTIONS While Descending Stairs

- Only use the walker on the stairs when accompanied by a caregiver. Improper use may result in injury or damage to the device.
- DO NOT lean towards the bottom of the stairs when using the device on the stairs. Doing so may create an imbalance in the device and may result in a fall or other injury.
- DO NOT attempt to use the device on the stairs with the stair conversion mechanism locked in the downwards positions.
- DO NOT engage the SMSL mechanism while using the device on the stairs. Doing so may create an imbalance in the device and may result in a fall or other injury.

Descending Stairs Using the StairAssist Walker in Stair Mode

1. Caregiver will be communicating and “guarding” the patient during stair negotiation.
2. Caregiver will hold onto the SAW when patient is transferring from standing to sitting and sitting to standing to ensure safety.
3. Ensure that the stair accommodation legs are properly adjusted to the stair height prior to use.
4. Patient and caregiver will walk to the platform at the top of the staircase.
 - a. A hand railing is required and it is highly recommended that the patient be using a gait belt when using the StairAssist Walker.

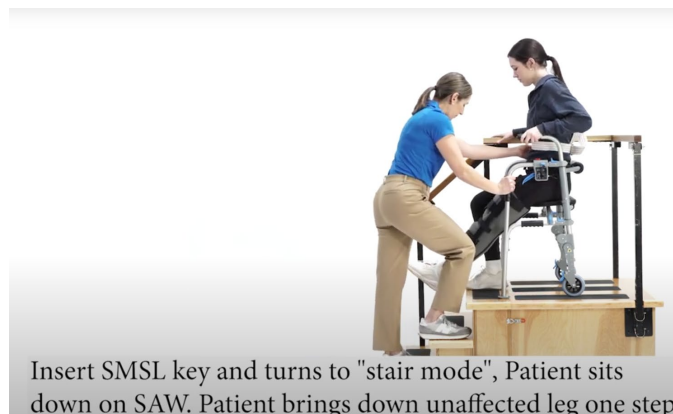
5. Patient will approach the stairs using SAW.
6. Caregiver will be down one step on the staircase guarding the patient.
7. Patient will stabilize themselves on a hand railing.
8. Caregiver will lock brakes on wheels prior to stair negotiation
9. Caregiver will move the handlebars to their lowest position.
10. Caregiver will turn around the device to allow the patient to sit on the seat facing down the stairs.



11. Caregiver will insert SAW safety key completely until key bottoms out in the SMSL.
12. Caregiver will turn the SMSL safety key to line up with the stair mode icon position.



13. Patient will sit down on the SAW and move the uninjured leg or stronger leg down to the next step.



14. Patient will then stand up on the uninjured or strong leg.



15. Caregiver will insert the safety key, turn to “stair mode”, tilt the SAW backwards on the rear foot, push the SMSL button, squeeze the SMSL lever until an audible “click” is heard and the KCM visibly converts SAW from “walker mode” to “stair mode.”
16. Caregiver will place the SAW behind the patient and then the patient sits down.
17. Patient will step down to the next step and stand up.
18. Caregiver will lift the SAW and move it down one step.
19. Repeat steps 13-18 until the patient reaches the bottom step.

Patient brings the unaffected leg down to floor. Patient holds hand railing. Caregiver lifts SAW off stairs and places in front



20. Once the SAW stair accommodation legs are on the second to last step and the rear feet are on the first step. The patient will stand up and hold onto the hand railing.
21. The patient should turn around, and the caregiver will turn the key from “standby mode” to “stair mode” and will squeeze the lever and press the SMSL button and the stair conversion legs will return to the walker position.

Patient brings the unaffected leg down to floor. Patient holds onto hand railing. Caregiver lifts SAW off stairs and places in front of patient

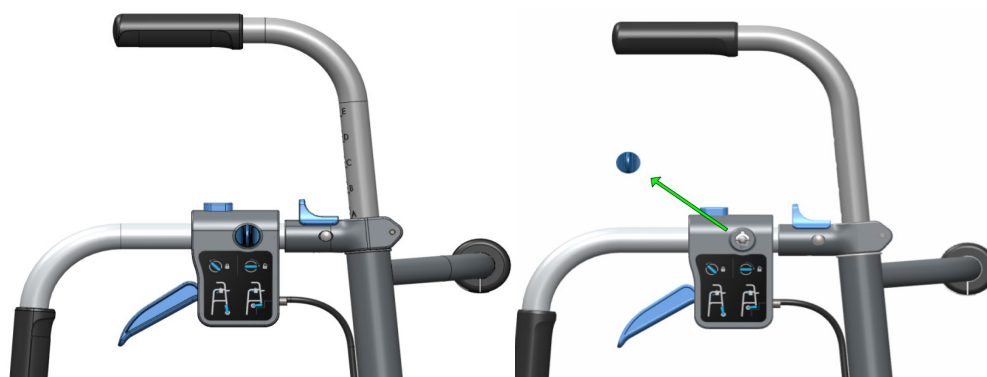


Caregiver converts SAW to "walker mode". Patient holds onto SAW. Caregiver unlocks brakes



22. Patient will then hold onto SAW.

23. When all legs are stable on the ground, the caregiver will unlock the brakes, turn the safety key from the "stair mode" to the middle of the SMSL and remove the SMSL key.



MAINTENANCE

- Wipe seat and handles with a damp cloth.
- Keep knee joints free from dirt or sand.
- Inspect wheels, glides, and stair feet regularly for wear or damage.

Manufactured for:
StairAssist Walker, Inc.
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