An Insight-Driven Solution

The Empath™ recliner is a crucial step forward in the patient care process – one developed entirely from real-world insights. Across healthcare applications, Empath is designed to reduce stress and the potential for injury for both patients and clinicians while increasing physical and emotional connectedness.
Easing Patient Transfer

The move from bed to chair is a key moment in a patient’s healthcare journey. For clinicians, it’s an inherently difficult process due to patient limitations and the number of times these transfers are performed in healthcare environments.

Our team spent 2,000+ hours observing interactions around patient seating. Then, we surveyed 300+ nurses and other clinicians on their needs and concerns at work.

We saw how conventional recliners caused undue strain and stress for clinicians and their patients. And we found opportunities to improve the experience.

1 in 3 clinicians surveyed has experienced an injury related to patient transfers.1

2nd ranking of nursing staff among other professions for back injuries suffered on the job. Only truck drivers rank higher.2

80% of patient falls occur in the patient room.3

1 Steelcase Health survey of 300+ clinicians and nurses in U.S. and Canada, conducted in 2013.
Promoting Safety and Connection

Our research revealed that clinicians’ top concerns are keeping patients comfortable and safe while promoting overall quality of care. Empath is designed to meet these needs and help empower patients, which can lead to enhancing the wellbeing, empathy and connection of clinicians and patients alike.

CONVENIENT CENTRAL LOCK
After seeing clinicians struggle to lock multiple individual casters, we developed a central locking system with easy-to-activate pedals that are located where caregivers need them – tucked in toward the front, on both sides of the chair.

EASY-ACCESS ARMS
We discovered that chairs with fixed arms made patient transfers difficult. Empath dual flip-down arms allow for easy access no matter where the chair is positioned in a space.

SUPPORTIVE DESIGN
Often, we observed arms that were less than forgiving. Empath arms are cushioned to avoid injury, while remaining supportive enough to steady patients. They’re also contoured for easy grip when getting in and out of the chair.
Suited for Many Spaces

The Empath recliner offers the safety, versatility and quality needed to serve a number of healthcare environments and applications. With both essential and advanced features, it adapts to a wide range of uses – including patient rooms, treatment areas, exam spaces, emergency departments and outpatient centers.

ADJUSTABLE HEADREST
Moves up and down, or can flip over the top when not in use. Attached with zipper for easy removal.

HEAT AND MASSAGE
With three settings for each function, patients benefit from comfort and control.

DUAL FLIP-DOWN ARMS
Provide barrier-free patient transfers from either side of the chair.

TRENDELENBURG (DUAL-SIDED)
Foot activated by the clinician from either side, it raises patient’s feet above the head.

FOOTREST CONTROL LEVER
Opens and closes the footrest separately from reclining motion for maximum control.

FOOTREST SCALLOP
Provides support for patient’s feet when seated.

PULL-OUT FOOTREST
Slides out easily to support patient’s feet when seated.

CENTRAL LOCK (DUAL-SIDED)
Pedals can be easily activated from either side of the chair.

DRAINAGE BAG HANGER
Accommodates a wide variety of drainage bags and lays flat when not in use.

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Made to Last

Count on Empath to stand up to the rigors of high-use spaces. Our research process to develop this recliner was surpassed only by our investment in its quality design and construction. Empath adheres to stringent Steelcase standards for durability and performance and a thorough testing process that exceeds industry standards. The result is exceptional ease of movement and a long product lifespan.

- Tested to support 300 pounds dynamic, 750 pounds static
- Back frame, seat frame and chassis are welded tubular steel
- Upper arms are strengthened by diecast aluminum inserts
- Recline mechanism is heavy-duty plate steel

For further options visit us online.

PEOPLE. PLANET. PROFIT.

By rethinking our business systems and designing our products to avoid negative impacts on humans and the environment, we contribute to a sustainable future for the planet and its people. We commit to advance our practices through continuous learning and building partnerships with our customers, business partners and environmental thought leaders to optimize our performance and contribute to the science and practice of sustainability.

TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT WWW.STEELCASE.COM/SUSTAINABILITY

SCS Indoor Advantage™ Gold certified for indoor air quality in North America

Level® 2 certified to ANSI/BIFMA e3

Empath is made with 25% recycled content, is designed to withstand the demands of healthcare cleaning protocols and is 89% recyclable at the end of its long lifespan. It may contribute to LEED certification for recycled content, regional materials, rapidly renewable materials, sustainable purchasing, and furniture and medical furnishings.