

# Loan Closet Program





## Durable Medical Equipment



Accessibility to durable medical equipment may help individuals with ALS, their loved ones, and/or their caregivers to continue doing the activities that are meaningful to them by providing the assistance they may need. The need for different types of equipment will vary throughout the progression of ALS and the specific needs of the individual.

### Mobility Devices - Walkers

Walking mobility devices are used to augment and/or facilitate the highest level of function in the lives of individuals with ALS by providing opportunities to be as independent as possible.

Device	Description
<p>Rolling Walker</p> 	<p>Rolling walkers can be used to slightly support weight and maintain balance while walking. With two legs in the back and two wheels in front, the rolling walker can be pushed/slid forward. The device's height can be adjusted to suit the user's height. Typically, foldable to allow for easy transport/storing.</p>
<p>Rollator with Handbrakes</p> 	<p>Rollators have four wheels that swivel, allowing the individual to walk without lifting the device to move forward. Hand dexterity is necessary to use handbrakes. Rollators have a seat that can be used for resting and sometimes a pouch to help carry necessities. The device's height can be adjusted to suit the user's height. Typically, foldable to allow for easy transport/storing. Not ideal for balance while walking as it may result in falls.</p>
<p>Push-Down Brake Rollator</p> 	<p>Rollators have four wheels that swivel, allowing the individual to walk without lifting the device to move forward. The Push-Down Brake is a weight-activated drag brake system ideal for individuals who cannot use hand brakes due to limited hand dexterity. Rollators have a seat that can be used for resting and sometimes a pouch to help carry necessities. The device's height can be adjusted to suit the user's height. Typically, foldable to allow for easy transport/storing. Not ideal for balance while walking as it may result in falls.</p>
<p>3-Wheeled Rollator</p> 	<p>3-wheeled rollators are lighter than 4-wheeled rollators. They may be easier for individuals to maneuver, especially in small spaces; however, they are less stable than 4-wheeled rollators. Hand dexterity required to utilize handbrakes. Some 3-wheeled rollators have a seat that can be used for resting and sometimes a pouch to help carry necessities. The device's height can be adjusted to suit the user's height. Typically, foldable to allow for easy transport/storing. Not ideal for balance while walking as it may result in falls.</p>






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### Mobility Devices - Wheelchairs


Wheeled and positioning mobility devices are used to augment and/or facilitate the highest level of function in the lives of individuals with ALS by providing opportunities to be as independent as possible.

Device	Description
<p>Transport Wheelchair with Footrests</p> 	<p>Light weight folding wheelchair that is easy for travel and designed to be pushed from behind by someone other than the user. It cannot be self-propelled. Easy to carry in a vehicle/store in trunk of car. Works well in areas where space is limited. Push-to-lock rear wheel locks are located on the rear wheels, designed to keep the individual safe when getting in/out of wheelchair. This chair is not meant for prolonged use, as they are not very sturdy, and its sling back and bottom support design does not provide adequate cushioning for daily or long-term use.</p>
<p>Transport Wheelchair with Handbrakes &amp; Footrests</p> 	<p>Light weight folding wheelchair that is easy for travel and designed to be pushed from behind by someone other than the user. It cannot be self-propelled. Easy to carry in a vehicle/store in trunk of car. Works well in areas where space is limited. Handbrakes are designed to keep the individual safe when getting in/out of wheelchair and may help navigate steep slopes and a wider variety of outdoor terrains. This chair is not meant for prolonged use, as they are not very sturdy, and its sling back and bottom support design does not provide adequate cushioning for daily or long-term use.</p>
<p>Manual Wheelchair with Footrests</p> 	<p>Manual wheelchairs can be self-propelled by the user using the rear wheels' hand rims. It can also be pushed from behind by someone other than the user. Heavier duty than transport wheelchairs as it's built for prolonged use. Push-to-lock mechanism located on the rear wheels, accessible to individuals to lock the wheelchair themselves.</p>
<p>Recline High Back Manual Wheelchair with Footrests</p> 	<p>The recline high-back design provides full trunk support for more dependent individuals. The reclining high back function may be useful for individuals with weak neck muscles as it may help maintain head and neck alignment to prevent the head from falling forward. Similarly, it is also useful for individuals with weak trunk support as it may provide trunk support necessary to help maintain proper trunk alignment to prevent the individual from falling forward or sideways out of the chair.</p>
<p>Tilt-in-Space Manual Wheelchair with Footrests</p> 	<p>Used for more dependent individuals. Designed to be pushed from behind by someone other than the user. It cannot be self-propelled by the user. Tilt-in-Space system allows pressure relief to prevent pressure sores and ulcers caused by extended sitting. Similar to the Recline High Back described above, the Tilt-in-Space feature may help provide head, neck and trunk support in individuals with weak neck and trunk musculature. Tilt-in-Space system may also facilitate feeding, respiratory function, catheter placement, etc. However, care should be taken when the individual has altered swallowing function to ensure proper saliva draining and to prevent aspiration.</p>

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## Mobility Devices - Wheelchairs cont.

<p>Power Wheelchair with Charged Battery</p> 	<p>Allows for independent mobility by utilizing hand-drive control. Good for individuals who cannot self-propel manual wheelchair due to limited use of upper extremities.</p>
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## Mobility Devices - Transfer Aids




Transfer aid devices are used by individuals with ALS and their caregivers through different stages of the disease to move more easily and safely from surface to surface (wheelchair, chair, bed, car, tub bench, toilet).

Device	Description
<p>Transfer Board</p> 	<p>Used for lateral transfers from bed to chair, bed to wheelchair, wheelchair to commode, etc. Requires use of upper extremity and trunk control as individual needs to lift bottom up and scoot from surface to surface. Used for patients with limited use of their lower extremities.</p>
<p>Beasy Board</p> 	<p>Used for lateral transfers from bed to chair, bed to wheelchair, wheelchair to commode, etc. Requires use of upper extremity and trunk control, individual slides from surface to surface by sitting on moveable disc (does not require individual to lift bottom up and scoot). Used for patients with limited use of their lower extremities.</p>
<p>Uplift</p> 	<p>Portable, self-powered lift assistance from chairs to help individuals stand up.</p>
<p>Electric Hoyer Lift</p> 	<p>Electric lift used for transfers in and out of bed, on and off the bedside toilet, in and out of chair, etc. Typically used for more dependent individuals/individuals who require a higher level of assistance.</p>

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## Mobility Devices - Transfer Aids cont.

<p>Sit to Stand/Sara Lift</p> 	<p>Transfer aid to assist with standing. Can be used for transfers from bed to chair, on and off the toilet, in and out of chair, or any number of seated transfers, etc. Typically used for individuals with a higher level of function as it requires good trunk control for safe use. Does not require electricity.</p>
<p>Portable/Suitcase Ramp</p> 	<p>Handicap ramp to increase wheelchair, rollator, etc. accessibility into a building (home, garage, apartment, etc.). Typically comes in 3' to 12' length.</p>
<p>Pivot Disk</p> 	<p>Pivot disks are designed for assisted or unassisted transfers by individuals with limited or no ability to pivot (or pick up feet sequentially). Pivot disks are great assistance tools for caregivers. Aide in transfers between the bed, wheelchair or toilet and can reduce caregiver back strain.</p>

## Bath




Bathing and toileting aids are intended to make getting in/out of bath and/or toilet safer and easier for individuals with ALS and their caregivers. They can help make the bathing and toileting experience more comfortable.

Device	Description
<p>Rolling Shower Chair</p> 	<p>Waterproof rolling shower chair with wheels to assist caregiver with transferring more dependent individual in/out of the shower. Provides trunk and arm support to decrease fall risk in shower. Good for energy conservation for individuals who have difficulty standing as they can stay seated while bathing. Some styles can be used over commode for easier toileting.</p>
<p>Rolling Shower Chair with Wheels</p> 	<p>Waterproof rolling shower chair with wheels to assist caregiver with transferring more dependent individual in/out of the shower. More stable than typical rolling shower chair. Provides trunk, arm, and leg support to decrease fall risk in shower. Good for energy conservation for individuals who have difficulty standing as they can stay seated while bathing. Some styles have removable commode for easier toileting.</p>

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## Bath cont.

<p>Tilt-in-Space Rolling Shower Chair</p> 	<p>Waterproof rolling shower chair with wheels to assist caregiver with transferring more dependent individual in/out of the shower. Tilt-in-Space system allows pressure relief to prevent pressure sores and ulcers caused by extended sitting. Provides trunk, arm, and leg support to decrease fall risk in shower. Good for energy conservation for individuals who have difficulty standing as they can stay seated while bathing. Some styles have removable commode for easier toileting.</p>
<p>Sliding Tub Transfer Bench</p> 	<p>The sliding tub transfer bench allows caregivers to assist individuals to sit and safely slide in/out of the tub. Individuals can stay seated while bathing. Requires tub to have a curtain, not shower door, for increased safety and comfort. Provides trunk and arm support to decrease fall risk in shower. Good for energy conservation for individuals who have difficulty standing.</p>
<p>Bath/Shower/Commode Transfer System</p> 	<p>Designed to assist caregivers in transferring more dependent individuals to and from the shower. Provides trunk, arm, and leg support to decrease fall risk in shower. Good for energy conservation for individuals who have difficulty standing as they can stay seated while bathing.</p>

## Bed

Bed aid devices are intended to make being in bed and getting in/out of bed safer and easier for individuals with ALS and their caregivers. Some may also help prevent falls.

Device	Description
<p>Bedside Table</p> 	<p>Rolling bedside table that can be used to keep necessities close by and/or to eat meals over the bed. Raises and lowers with a light touch.</p>
<p>Bed Cane</p> 	<p>Assists individuals with getting in and out of bed and/or repositioning/rolling in bed more independently. Requires use of upper extremity.</p>

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Mattress Overlay



Helps with pressure distribution to relieve and/or prevent pressure sores and ulcers caused by extended bed rest. Good for individuals who cannot independently shift their weight frequently.