

# Notice Information: - Advisory 28 October 2009

#### Part 1. Product Information

a)	Title:	Wheelchairs used in Vehicles	
b)	Product Name/Type:	Wheelchairs used in Vehicles	
c)	Active Substance:		
d)	Manufacturer/Supplier:	All wheelchairs supplied by all manufacturers	

### Part 2. Target Audience

a) Target Audience: Health Board CEOs

**Community Care Managers** 

**Community Therapists** 

Health Visitors

Carers of the Elderly

Risk Managers

Loan Store Managers

Children's Disability Services

**Educational Establishments** 

#### Part 3. Problem/Issue

a) Problem/Issue:

The use of wheelchairs as seats in motorised vehicles, where they are not adequately secured in place, poses a risk to the user and others in the vehicle in the event of sudden deceleration.

## Part 4. Background Information

a) Background Information:

During the last 12 months the IMB has been advised of a number of safety communications issued by wheelchair manufacturers in relation to different types of wheelchairs which require restraints when used in motorised vehicles. There is a risk of injury to the occupant of the wheelchair and others present in the vehicle if the wheelchair was to move unexpectedly in the event of an accident or sudden deceleration.

To reduce the likelihood for similar incidents, the IMB recommend that the following actions are taken:

#### Part 5. Action to be taken

<ul><li>a) Action to be taken:</li></ul>
--

- 1) Ensure the appropriate personnel are made aware of this notice.
- 2) If you use a wheelchair in a motorised vehicle please ensure that:
  - a) The wheelchair has been designed for such use.
  - b) The appropriate "tie down" fixtures are being used.
- c) The instructions for use for your particular wheelchair are being followed.

#### Part 6. Enquiries

a) All enquiries should be made to:

All adverse incidents relating to a medical device should be reported to the:

Irish Medicines Board

**Human Products Safety Monitoring Department** 

Kevin O'Malley House

**Earlsfort Centre** 

**Earlsfort Terrace** 

Dublin 2

Telephone: +353-1-6764971

Fax: +353-1-6344033

E-mail: vigilance@imb.ie

Website: www.imb.ie

Wheelchairs used in Vehicles