DRIVING WITH ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT

Edward Brodd, MS, RKT, CDRS VA Medical Center, Palo Alto



ESTABLISHED IN 1974

- Mandated by Congress
- ▶ Public Law 93-538
- Originally 26 Driver Evaluation Centers
- Currently 45 Evaluation Centers
- PMRS Therapists provide this Service Classified as Driver Rehab Specialist

PALO ALTO PROGRAM

- Established in 1975
- Referring Center for VISN 21
- 3 High Tech Vans and 2 Sedans
- Driving Adaptive Equipment
- Safe Driving Assessments
- Education in the DMV Process
- Scooter Lift Evaluations
- Driver Simulation Training
- GPS Training

6 LEVEL PROGRAM

- Driving Adaptive Equipment Evaluations with Vehicle Modifications
- Safe Driving Assessments with or without adaptive equipment
- Follow-up Driver Training
- DMV Interaction
- Simulator Training
- GPS Training

REFERRING SERVICES

- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Prosthetic Service
- Spinal Cord Injury Service
- Orthopedic
- Outpatient Clinics
- Geriatric Clinics
- Neurology
- Polytrauma
- PTSD Program

REFERRAL PROCESS

- Physician Generated Consult
- Prosthetic Request
- Veteran Request
- Inter-facility Consults

STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

- Clinic Interview
- Clinic Assessment
- Orientation to Vehicle
- Behind the Wheel Assessment
- Behind the Wheel Functional
- Recommendations for Driver Training
- Patient Education
- Vehicle Inspection

WHEN CAN I RESUME DRIVING?



INITIAL EVALUATION

- SCI 4 to 12 Months Post Injury
- TBI Up to One Year Post Injury
- CVA Up to One Year
- MS As Needed per Progression
- Ortho Pain Free and Functional ROM
- Neuro Seizure Free up to 6 Months
- Medically Stable

CLINIC INTERVIEW

- Driving History
- DMV Status
- Vehicle Status
- Driver or Non Driver
- Type of Evaluation Van or Sedan

CLINIC ASSESSMENT

- Medical History
- Sensory
- Motor
- Range of Motion
- Balance
- Cognition Screening
- Vision
- Wheelchair Evaluation
- DMV Rules & Regulations

ORIENTATION TO VEHICLE

- Van or Sedan
- Adaptive Equipment Evaluation
- Transfer Skills / Wheelchair Driver
- Sedan Wheelchair Stowage
- Safe Vehicle Ingress / Egress

BEHIND THE WHEEL ASSESSMENT

- Types of Driving Adaptive Equipment
- Safe Driving Assessments
- Overall Driving Skills
- Overall Functional Skills
- Assessed on a Comprehensive Driving Course (hospital > residential > complex commercial
 - > expressway > freeway > mountain)

BEHIND THE WHEEL FUNCTIONAL

- Position and body awareness problems
- Difficulty with accurate foot placement on pedals
- Difficulty moving from gas to brake
- Decreased accuracy with steering
- Muscle strength
- Coordination & dexterity
- ROM
- Endurance

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Appropriate Number of Driving Lessons with Recommended Adaptive Equipment
- Vehicle, Vehicle Modifications, and Driving Adaptive Equipment Recommendations Routed to Prosthetics
- Prescription Routed To Approved Vendor
- Progress Note Entered in Electronic Medical Record

PATIENT EDUCATION

- Vendor Selection
- Vehicle Purchase
- Final Driving Goals
- Veteran / Caregiver Educated in the Proper Use of Adaptive Equipment

FINAL VEHICLE INSPECTION

- At Vehicle Completion, the Vehicle is Inspected by the Driver Rehab Specialist
- Follow up Driver Training is Scheduled
- Veteran is Present at Final Inspection
- Any Adaptive Equipment Problems can be Resolved at this Time

DRIVER SIMULATION STATIONS

- Mimic on-road Performance in a Protected Environment
- Able to Record Driving Deficits
- Track Overall Driving Skills
- Ability to place Hazards in the Driving Environment Forcing the Participant to React





ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY



LEFT ARM AND LEFT LEG AFFECTED

- Steering Device for Right Hand
- Remote Turn Signal Lever



RIGHT ARM AND LEFT LEG AFFECTED

- Steering Device for Left Hand
- LH Gear Shift Selector Lever
- Left Foot Accelerator





BOTH LEGS AFFECTED

- Hand Controls
- Steering Wheel Orthotic Devices

STEERING WHEEL ORTHOTIC DEVICES

- Most Functional Arm on the Steering Wheel
- Steering Wheel Counter Weight
- Attempt to Keep the Orthotic Device at the 8 or 5 O'Clock Position on the Wheel









HAND CONTROLS

- Mechanical Hand Controls
 - Push Right Angle
 - Push Twist
 - Push Pull
- High Tech Servo Controls
 - Electronic Gas / Brake
 - Pneumatic



















STEERING SYSTEMS

- Factory Steering
- Low Effort Steering
- Zero Effort Steering
- Foot Steering







SECONDARY CONTROLS

- > Touch Pads
- Key Holder
- Rocker Switch
- Elbow Switches

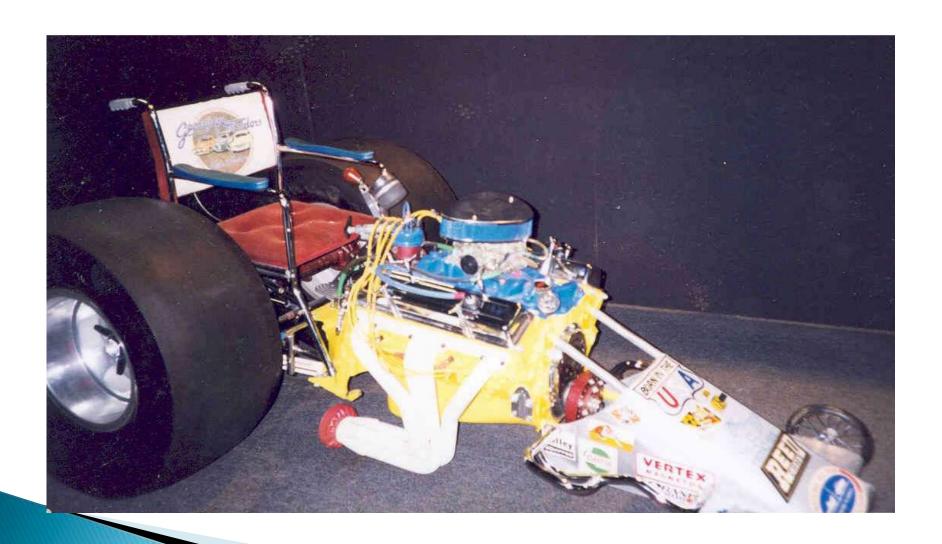






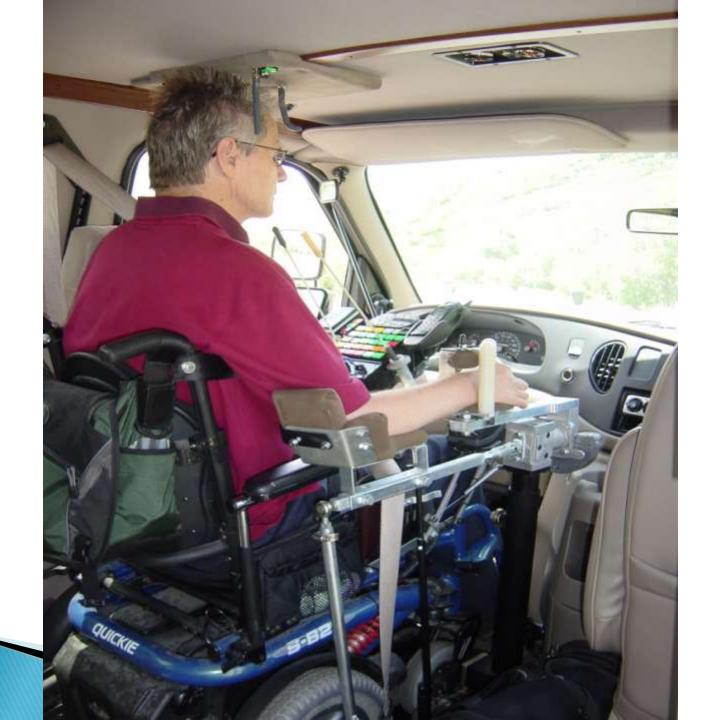


HIGH TECH DRIVING SYSTEMS











DRIVER STATION

Wheelchair Driver

Driver Transfer













VAN MODIFICATIONS

- Floor Drops
- Raised Roof and Doors
- Automatic Door Openers
- Gas Tank Modifications
- Body Raises
- Drive Shaft Modifications



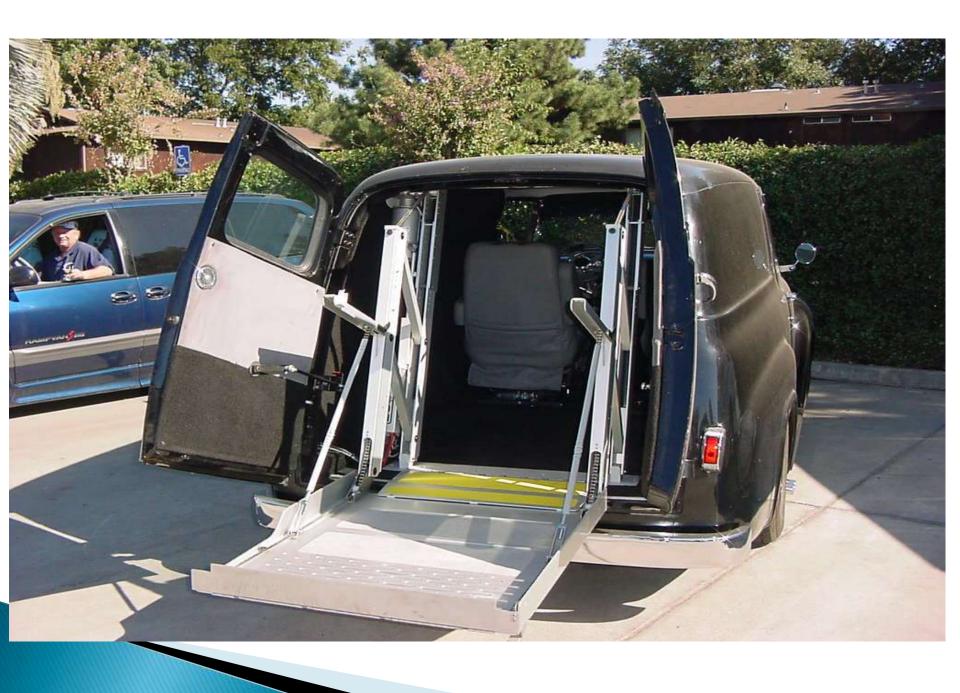






LIFTS FOR FULLSIZE VANS

- Side or Rear Mount
- Double Post Platform
- Single Post Platform
- Under Vehicle Lift













MINI VAN CONVERSIONS

- Chrysler Products
- Toyota Sienna
- GMC Products
- Honda Odyssey



Entervan®Xi

Rounding out BraunAbility's complete line of wheelchair vans, the Entervan Xi is a convenient alternative for wheelchair users who travel often with ambulatory passengers. The Xi features an in-floor ramp that slides out from underneath the floor, allowing clear and unrestricted entry and exit through the passenger door. Greater interior maneuverability is just one more benefit of this new conversion.

Available on the Dodge/Chrysler chassis, the Entervan Xi offers all the benefits of a BraunAbility conversion with an in-floor ramp. It's just one more addition to our already versatile fleet of accessible vehicles. See your BraunAbility Dealer for a closer look today!

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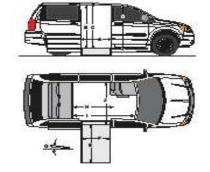


Easy Access
The Entervan Xi features
an in-floor ramp that
keeps the side passenger
door unobstructed for
ambulatory passengers.





All dimensions are for reference only.



Door Opening Usable Width (Slide Door)	A	32"
Door Opening Usable Height (Slide Door)	В	53"
Interior Height at Center of Van*	C	57-1/4"
Interior Height at Driver & Passenger Position**	D	56-1/4"
Ramp Length	E	56-1/4"
Ramp Width (Usable Clear Opening)	F	31"
Ramp Angle (Vehicle Kneeled/Power Conversion)	G	10.5
Interior Floor Length (Behind Front Seats)	н	57"
Overall Interior Floor Length (Flat Area)	1	86"
Interior Width at B Pillars	1	59-1/4"

* Deduct 2-1/2" for vans with Overhead DVID/Rail System. ** Deduct 3-1/4" for vans with Moon Roof. Due to manufacturing tolerances both with the CBM vehicle and the conversion components, all dimensions may vary slightly from those shown.





SCOOTER LIFTS

- Rear Platform
- Trunk
- Swing In
- Swing Out
- Chair Topper













