## Safer Patients **Better Care**

Everyone should receive access to quality healthcare, regardless of mobility limitations. Having the right equipment and trained staff can make a huge difference in providing safe, quality care and improving patient outcomes.





36.5% percentage of US adults who are obese<sup>1</sup>



Today, poor patient handling practices put patients and caregivers at risk for injury and lesser quality care.



percentage of practice administrators who indicated their employees were trained to lift a patient<sup>3</sup>



percentage of practices with a mechanical lift available to transfer patients<sup>3</sup>



percentage of wheelchair users who did not attempt to ascend to a non-height adjustable exam table<sup>4</sup>



percentage of provider sites with a height-adjustable exam chair<sup>5</sup>



acknowledged that parts of an exam were skipped when a barrier was encountered<sup>3</sup>



Greater risk

of misdiagnoses

Poorer quality

care

Missed benefits

of early detection

A recent study by Dr. Guy Fragala and colleagues (sponsored by

How can we help patients be safer during medical

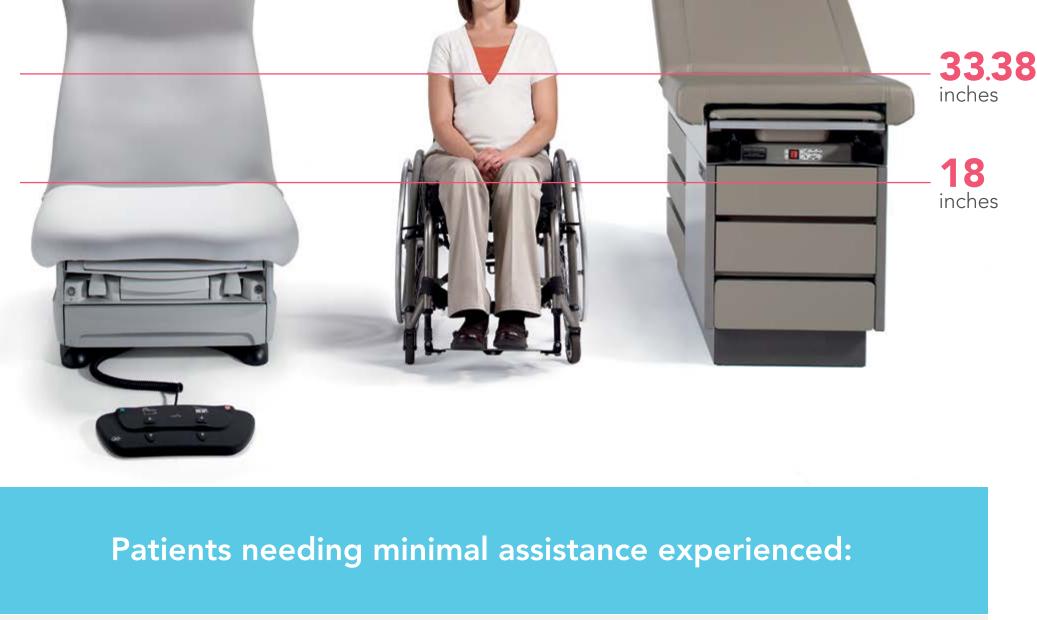
office visits without sacrificing quality care?

Midmark), evaluated patient exertion, difficulty and safety for patients requiring various levels of assistance to sit on an exam chair or table. Traditional fixed-height exam table Height-adjustable



exam chair

(similar to those found in most clinics)



reduction in exertion

reduction in difficulty when using a height-adjustable chair vs. a fixed-height table.4

higher feeling of safety

"As new ambulatory clinics are built and renovations are done to existing clinics, the benefits of height-adjustable examination chairs needs to be recognized, and those making decisions on furnishings need to understand how height-adjustable

exam chairs can add to the quality of care provided."

Guy Fragala, PhD, PE, CSP, CSPHP

Sources:

Read the full study by Dr. Fragala online.

<sup>1</sup>Obesity statistic: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/adult.html">https://nccd.cdc.gov/NPAO\_DTM/LocationSummary.aspx?statecode=94</a> <sup>2</sup> Disability statistic: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/infographic-disability-impacts-all.html">https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/infographic-disability-impacts-all.html</a>

<sup>3</sup>Reducing Risk: Fragala G. Reducing Occupational Risk to Ambulatory Caregivers. Workplace Health Saf. 2016 Sep;64(9):414-9. doi: 10.1177/2165079916642776. Epub 2016 May 12. PMID: 27174130 <sup>4</sup>Benefits Achieved for Patients Through Application of Height-Adjustable Examination Tables: <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/</a>

316834705 Benefits Achieved for Patients Through Application of Height-Adjustable Examination Tables <sup>5</sup>Lagu T, Hannon NS, Rothberg MB, Wells AS, Green KL, Windom MO, et al. Access to subspecialty care for patients with mobility impairment: a survey. Ann Intern Med. 2013; 158:441-6



MKT00135



