

Medical Device Alert

Action

Ref: MDA/2009/081 Issued: 14 December 2009 at 11:00

Device

Rea Azalea wheelchairs
manufactured by Invacare
Rea AB.



Problem

There are two problems which can cause the occupant to fall from the wheelchair and sustain a serious injury:

1. the backrest can fail in use
2. the posture belt can loosen if fitted or adjusted incorrectly.

Action by

All those involved in the provision, repair and maintenance of these wheelchairs. In particular: wheelchair and seating service managers, rehabilitation engineers, occupational and wheelchair therapists, maintenance staff and contractors.

Action

- Trace all Rea Azalea wheelchairs.
- Ensure that all users and carers are aware of the revised instructions for use.
- For Azalea Base wheelchairs with a serial number in the range 020807175055 to 020911908536, inspect both backrest supports and mountings for signs of damage (e.g. distortion, cracked paint).
- If damaged, remove the wheelchair from use and contact Invacare for a replacement seat frame.
- If undamaged, arrange for a reinforcement kit to be fitted.

CAS deadlines

Action underway: 29 December 2009
Action complete: 15 March 2010

Contact

Manufacturer
Technical Services Department
Invacare UK Operations Ltd
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Link to Full Medical Alert

<http://www.mhra.gov.uk/Publications/Safetywarnings/MedicalDeviceAlerts/CON065574>