

Special Product Section

Special-needs individuals

Communications board

Emergency responders can encounter problems communicating with victims and patients at a disaster scene, whether due to trauma, health factors, language difficulties or other complica-



tions. The Special Needs Picture Board, an illustrated dry-erase board, addresses that problem with 80 icons representing a variety of personal and medical needs. Patients at the scene of an emergency who are unable to communicate can use the board to describe their problem.

Tube Enterprises Inc., 866-650-1728, www.tube-enterprises.com

Emergency wheelchair

This evacuation wheelchair allows an evacuee with a disability to be quickly



transported down fire stairs or on a flat surface in an emergency. The EVAC+CHAIR emergency wheelchair requires no installation and can be stored in a fire escape or adjacent to a person with a disability. A system of

belts and wheels allows for smooth and controlled transportation for a person weighing up to 300 pounds.

EVAC+CHAIR Corp., 212-369-4094, www.evac-chair.com

Disability response tips

This tip card provides information for first responders who work with people

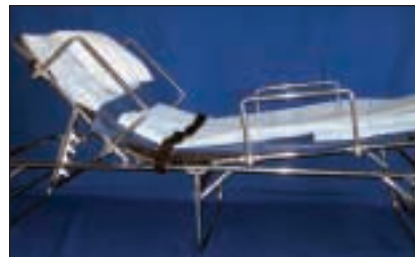
with special needs. It gives quick, easy-to-use procedures for assisting people with a variety of disabilities both in an emergency and in routine encounters. While not comprehensive, it contains specific information that can be read quickly before or while responding to an incident.

Center for Development and Disability, 505-272-3000, cdd.unm.edu



Portable bed

Designed to meet the large-scale special needs of the frail, disabled and injured during civilian evacuations, military operations and patient rehabilitation, this portable bed is strong and stable, according to the manufac-



turer, but weighs less than 30 pounds. The Westcot Medical Bed includes a stowed IV pole, patient restraint, optional safety rails and disposable linens. It can be folded to 8 by 32 by 40 inches and stored in a 10-bed rack.

Tube Enterprises Inc., 866-650-1728, www.tube-enterprises.com

Preparedness guide

This information tool provides advice to seniors and people with disabilities on how to prepare for and respond to a disaster. One side of the magnetized Emergency Readiness Wheel contains guidance on preparedness, such as "go bag" instructions and



evacuation and shelter information. The other side focuses on response steps for various disasters. Government agencies or service organizations can add their logos to the wheels for distribution to their constituents and clients.

EAD & Associates, 718-330-0034, www.eadassociates.com

Evacuation wheelchair

This evacuation chair is designed to move people with a disability or injury down stairways quickly and safely during an emergency.

The Garaventa Evacu-Trac CD7 is designed so that a small attendant can move a much larger passenger down the stairs. The chair's rubber tracks firmly grip the stairs, and a safety brake can stop the unit if



necessary. It is stable and self-supporting both on flat surfaces and during descent, according to the manufacturer.

Garaventa Accessibility, 800-663-6556,

www.garaventa.ca

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