



## ARJO

Arjo provides products and solutions to improve the quality of life for people affected by reduced mobility and age-related health challenges, in the fields of patient handling, hygiene, disinfection, diagnostics, medical beds and prevention of pressure ulcers and venous thromboembolism. We work closely with contractors, architects, designers and planners in health care settings, providing design support and planning tools. For over 20 years, we have distributed the “Arjo Guide for Architects and Planners”, which offers tips on design, layout examples and space requirements for working areas and equipment.

[www.arjo.com](http://www.arjo.com)

### DSDC accredited product

The product accredited by DSDC is called Sara® Flex. Sara® Flex is a mobile standing and raising aid used to support a person with affected mobility to perform the sit-to-stand movement, and to facilitate transferring from one place to another. Standing and raising is an essential transfer task, often performed multiple times a day. The ability to rise from a seated position is one of the most fundamental movements amongst normal activities of daily living. People with dementia experience more barriers to participating in physical activity than a person without a cognitive disease and, to a large extent, depend on support to become physically active. If performed without the right equipment or using an unsafe manual technique, it is a transfer that can put both patient and caregiver at risk of serious injury. Sara® Flex equips one caregiver with the ability to position a patient from a seated to a safe, secure and comfortable standing position, in one ergonomic movement.

#### Q What interested you in having your product accredited by DSDC for dementia design?

Our mission is to improve the everyday life of people affected by reduced mobility and age-related health challenges. During more than sixty years, Arjo’s genuine passion for improving the health and well-being of others have been helping people all over the world face their health challenges with confidence and dignity. Arjo continuously develops our products and one of our design focus areas is to include dementia aspects in our products. We aim to aid good dementia care, by combining our products portfolio with the understanding of the challenges in dementia care. Our cooperation with DSDC have been a key success factor in this journey and the dementia design accreditation is a strong confirmation on our commitment.

#### Q Can you describe one aspect of this product which is designed to be dementia friendly?

The silicone leg support is designed to be dementia friendly; since verbal communication may be affected as the dementia progresses, someone living with dementia may have difficulties to verbally express pain or discomfort. Every person is also unique. Sara® Flex was designed with a silicone leg pad to support comfort during the standing and sitting movement and to adapt individually to different bodies. The flexibility in the leg support also allows the body to do a forward movement and flexion of the knees and at the ankles, which allow the resident to utilize aspects of normal sit-to-stand movement. Resembling a natural and familiar movement, is also an extremely important aspect when supporting a person with dementia to stand up.