Basic Seating

Ideal Anatomical Seated Position

Pelvis	Neutral (slight anterior tilt)
Hips	Flexed 90°, slightly abducted
Legs	Knees & Ankles at 90 $^{\circ}$
Trunk	Straight
Head	Facing Forward
Shoulders	Level
Arms	Slightly flexed, abducted and internally rotated, forearm pronated, hand open

90-90-90 vs.HoSoP



Provide support at appropriate angles to enable stability, comfort and function but plan to change the location, angle or strength with progression.

Sequence of Postural Evaluation

Pelvis Lower Extremities Trunk Head and Neck Upper Extremities

What are we looking for?



Reducible and Non-Reducible

Anatomical Bony Landmarks of the Pelvis





Pelvic Positions-Sagittal View



Posterior Pelvic Tilt

Understand the Cause:

- overactive hip extensor muscles
- tight hamstring muscles
- seat / back angle greater than 90° 95°
- seat depth to long
- Decreased lumbar lordosis



Posterior Pelvic Tilt

- Posterior Pelvic Tilt can cause:
 - Abduction of the hips
 - External rotation of the hips
 - Pressure ulcer formation on the sacrum
 - Kyphosis of the spine
 - Extension of the neck for vision.
 - Protracted shoulders which impede reach and upper extremity function



Anterior Pelvic Tilt

Understand the cause:

- Tight hip flexors, Quadriceps
- Tight spinal extensors
- Weak abdominals



Anterior Pelvic Tilt

Anterior Pelvic Tilt can cause:

- Adduction or internal rotation of the hips
- Instability of the trunk or the potential to fall forward in the seating system.
- Can cause back pain over time.
- Typically causes retraction of the shoulders which can also impede functional reach



Pelvic Obliquity and Rotation



Pelvic Obliquity

- Named for the "low" side
- Above is a "right" obliquity

Pelvic Rotation

- Named for the "backward" side
- Below is a pelvic rotation



Pelvic Obliquity

- Is when one side of the pelvis is lower than the other.
- Named for the low side
 - If not reduced will cause scoliosis
 - If not reduced can cause pressure ulcer development on low side.
 - Can eventually cause person to develop back pain



Pelvic Rotation

- Pelvic rotation is when one side of the pelvis rotates forward of the other.
- A pelvic rotation is named for the side that is backward.



Pelvic Rotation

May give appearance of:

- LE leg length discrepancy
- Appearance of "Windswept" LE's
- Often associated with a spinal scoliosis



Lower Extremities

What are we looking for(PROM)?

- Limitations in Hip flexion
- Limitation in hip abduction or adduction
- Limitation in external and internal rotation.

Feel and observe, then think about why it is occurring.

Lower Extremities

Continue PROM

- What is the PROM limitations of the knee?
- What is the PROM of the ankles?
- Do we stretch our client before we check PROM?

Trunk

- When checking the trunk, check is the lateral curvature reducible.
- Do the curves in the trunk move to a neutral alignment?
- Do the shoulders or pelvis move with the trunk?
- Can the client lie flat with both shoulders on the mat?
- If the shoulders and pelvis are moving with the trunk then the trunk is most-likely non-reducible.

Trunk



Shoulders, Neck and Head

- Do the shoulders rest back onto the mat?
- Are the shoulders still protracted or more retracted?
- Does the neck stay neutral or is it still flexed forward, rotated, or laterally flexed?
- Can the head achieve a neutral position?

Upper Extremities

- Is the client able to use their arms in the supine position?
- Can they lift their arms and reach forward?
- If they can move their arms is the movement functional or could it be functional?

Supine then Sitting





Principles of Seating

- Optimize function
- Minimize orthopedic deformities
- Maximize weight distribution to manage pressure
- Maintain vital body functions (Swallowing and breathing)
- Maximize visual, perceptual and cognitive abilities
- Maximize comfort and sitting tolerance (Be Realistic)
- Remember Consumers Goals

Pelvis

The pelvis is the single, most critical element in the seated position. If the pelvis is not in neutral, well-balanced alignment, you will see compensatory positions of the legs, trunk, head and neck, and limited functional use of the upper extremities.

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