§ 890.3800 Motorized three-wheeled vehicle.

(a) Identification. A motorized three-wheeled vehicle is a gasoline-fueled or battery-powered device intended for medical purposes that is used for outside transportation by disabled persons.

(b) Classification. Class I (general controls). The device is exempt from the premarket notification procedures in subpart E of part 807 of this chapter, subject to the limitations in §890.9. The device is also exempt from the current good manufacturing practice requirements of the quality system regulation in part 820 of this chapter, with the exception of §820.180, regarding general requirements concerning records and §820.198, regarding complaint files.


§ 890.3825 Mechanical walker.

(a) Identification. A mechanical walker is a four-legged device with a metal frame intended for medical purposes to provide moderate weight support while walking. It is used by disabled persons who lack strength, good balance, or endurance.

(b) Classification. Class I (general controls). The device is exempt from the premarket notification procedures in subpart E of part 807 of this chapter, subject to the limitations in §890.9. The device is also exempt from the current good manufacturing practice requirements of the quality system regulation in part 820 of this chapter, with the exception of §820.180, regarding general requirements concerning records and §820.198, regarding complaint files.


§ 890.3850 Mechanical wheelchair.

(a) Identification. A mechanical wheelchair is a manually operated device with wheels that is intended for medical purposes to provide mobility to persons restricted to a sitting position.

(b) Classification. Class I (general controls).

§ 890.3860 Powered wheelchair.

(a) Identification. A powered wheelchair is a battery-operated device with wheels that is intended for medical purposes to provide mobility to persons restricted to a sitting position.

(b) Classification. Class II (performance standards).

§ 890.3880 Special grade wheelchair.

(a) Identification. A special grade wheelchair is a device with wheels that is intended for medical purposes to provide mobility to persons restricted to a sitting position. It is intended to be used in all environments for long-term use, e.g., for paraplegics, quadraplegics, and amputees.

(b) Classification. Class II (performance standards).

§ 890.3890 Stair-climbing wheelchair.

(a) Identification. A stair-climbing wheelchair is a device with wheels that is intended for medical purposes to provide mobility to persons restricted to a sitting position. The device is intended to climb stairs by means of two endless belt tracks that are lowered from under the chair and adjusted to the angle of the stairs.

(b) Classification. Class III (premarket approval).

(c) Date PMA or notice of completion of a PDP is required. A PMA or notice of completion of a PDP for a device described in paragraph (b) of this section is required to be filed with the Food and Drug Administration on or before July 12, 2000, for any stair-climbing wheelchair that was in commercial distribution before May 28, 1976, or that has, on or before July 12, 2000, been found to be substantially equivalent to a stair-climbing wheelchair that was in commercial distribution before May 28, 1976. Any other stair-climbing wheelchair shall have an approved PMA or
declared completed PDP in effect before being placed in commercial distribution.

§ 890.3900 Standup wheelchair.

(a) Identification. A standup wheelchair is a device with wheels that is intended for medical purposes to provide mobility to persons restricted to a sitting position. The device incorporates an external manually controlled mechanical system that is intended to raise a paraplegic to an upright position by means of an elevating seat.

(b) Classification. Class II (performance standards).

§ 890.3910 Wheelchair accessory.

(a) Identification. A wheelchair accessory is a device intended for medical purposes that is sold separately from a wheelchair and is intended to meet the specific needs of a patient who uses a wheelchair. Examples of wheelchair accessories include but are not limited to the following: armboard, lapboard, pusher cuff, crutch and cane holder, overhead suspension sling, head and trunk support, and blanket and leg rest strap.

(b) Classification. Class I (general controls). If the device is not intended for use as a protective restraint as defined in §880.6760 of this chapter, it is exempt from the premarket notification procedures in subpart E of part 807 of this chapter, subject to the limitations in §890.9.

§ 890.3920 Wheelchair component.

(a) Identification. A wheelchair component is a device intended for medical purposes that is generally sold as an integral part of a wheelchair, but may also be sold separately as a replacement part. Examples of wheelchair components are the following: armrest, narrowing attachment, belt, extension brake, curb climber, cushion, antitip device, footrest, handrim, hill holder, leg rest, heel loops, and toe loops.

(b) Classification. Class I (general controls). The device is exempt from the premarket notification procedures in subpart E of part 807 of this chapter, subject to the limitations in §890.9.

§ 890.3930 Wheelchair elevator.

(a) Permanently mounted wheelchair platform lift—(1) Identification. A permanently mounted wheelchair platform lift is a motorized vertical or inclined platform lift device permanently installed in one location that is intended for use in mitigating mobility impairment caused by injury or other disease by providing a guided platform to move a person from one level to another, with or without a wheelchair.

(2) Classification. Class II. The permanently mounted wheelchair platform lift is exempt from premarket notification procedures in subpart E of part 807 of this chapter, subject to §890.9 and the following conditions for exemption:

(i) Appropriate analysis and nonclinical testing (such as that outlined in the currently FDA-recognized edition of ASME A18.1 “Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chair Lifts”) must demonstrate that the safety controls are adequate to prevent a free fall of the platform in the event of a device failure;

(ii) Appropriate analysis and nonclinical testing (such as that outlined in the currently FDA-recognized edition of ASME A18.1 “Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chair Lifts”) must demonstrate the ability of the device to withstand the rated load with an appropriate factor of safety;

(iii) Appropriate analysis and nonclinical testing (such as that outlined in the currently FDA-recognized edition of ASME A18.1 “Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chair Lifts”) must demonstrate the ability of the enclosures to prevent the user from falling from the device; and