

## **Mobility / Adaptive Aids Discussion Questions**

October 2024

- 1. What types of adaptive equipment do you use? How have they helped you?
- 2. What would you tell someone who is hesitant to use mobility aids? (such as wheelchairs, walkers and canes)
- 3. What activities do you find the most difficult due to pain, illness or disability?
- 4. What are ways you have been able to ask for help from family or friends?
- 5. What are the challenges you have faced with using mobility aids in public spaces?
- 6. Has a Physical or Occupational Therapist ever suggested devices that could be useful? Explain.
- 7. Are there ways you have found to make a difficult activity easier?
- 8. What makes it difficult to find and use adaptive devices?

  For example cost or feeling comfortable using a device around others
- 9. How does your perception of mobility aids affect your willingness to use them? (such as wheelchairs, walkers and canes)
- 10. Explain if you have ever had a provider order medical equipment for you. Were you able to get your insurance to cover it?
- 11. What adaptive or mobility aids do you use currently?
- 12. What are adaptive tools that make your home safer or easier to navigate?
- 13. What challenges have you faced when looking for adaptive aids?
- 14. What types of adaptive equipment have you found most effective for managing pain or illness?
- 15. What has helped you find your voice? (ex: asking for accommodations, advocating for your needs)



- 16. How has using adaptive tools changed your daily routine or activities?
- 17. What are some mobility aids/ devices you use to help you maintain function throughout the day?
- 18. What has helped you the most to communicate to those who ask questions about your aids/devices? (ex: "You only use your wheelchair sometimes." "I only see your wear your neck brace or knee brace on occasion" "Jimmy, why do you have a shower chair in your bathroom?")
- 19. How have you arranged your living situation to make it most comfortable for you with your accommodations? (such as shower handles, moving downstairs if you slept upstairs etc)
- 20. Share a positive experience(s) you have had using your mobility/adaptive aid.
- 21. In what ways have adaptive devices made your life easier or better?
- 22. When you travel or go out of the house, do you call ahead to make sure they can accommodate you?
- 23. What is in your comfort bag or travel bag? (ex: mat, meds, tens unit, braces, neck pillow, eye mask, heat/cooling gels, etc)
- 24. Are you able to speak with your healthcare professional about mobility aids?
- 25. When did you give yourself permission to utilize mobility aids/adaptive devices? Explain.
- 26. What mobility aids/devices have you found most effective?
- 27. Where have you found the most affordable aids/devices?
- 28. Have you thought about asking your healthcare team for a handicap placard? Why or why not?