



Kera sit2sit User Case



Andrew and Cherry : Quick and easy transfers at home and on holiday

- Muscular Dystrophy
- Charcot Marie Tooth
- Non weight-bearing
- At home
- On holiday
- Single caregiver
- 30 second transfer
- Lounge to bed transfer
- Travel handle accessory

SITUATION

Prior to having the Kera sit2sit, Cherry was manually lifting Andrew for every transfer. Andrew wanted to take the strain of manual lifts away from Cherry to keep her safe:

"...I wanted something that could help her lift me without hurting her back, something she could do by herself, without having other people help, so the [Kera sit2sit] hoist was good for that. Very happy with it. " Andrew

CLINICAL CASE

Andrew has Charcot Marie Tooth disease. His wife Cherry is his primary caregiver at home.

Andrew has no standing strength but is able to do some weight bearing through his legs if they are well constrained. Due to his lack of standing strength, he is unable to use a transfer aid or sit-to-stand hoist. Andrew has sitting balance on chairs and the side of his bed. He uses a commode for toileting and showers.

They needed a solution that would allow transfers from the side of the bed to a wheelchair, to toilet commode and to armchair for them to comfortably manage their life at home.

It was important that they remained independent of external caregivers and continued to be able to travel.



Watch Andrew and Cherry sharing their experience of using the Kera sit2sit at:

www.htsystems.co.nz/user-cases



SCRIPTING DETAILS

Andrew uses the Kera80 High model.

Kera80 (SWL of 80kg)	Andrew weighs around 70kg and Cherry is fit and happy with pulling the shorter caregiver handle.
Kera Low model (for seat heights between 380-550mm)	Andrew transfers between seat heights of 350mm to 550mm, for example his armchair to his power wheelchair (PWC). The Kera Low model was required to access such a low armchair (even below the suggested range). His power wheelchair seat height is at the upper limit for the Kera Low. If his PWC or commode seats were any higher he would have to use the Kera High model and get his armchair raised.
No Accessories needed	Andrew doesn't require Thighstraps as he is comfortable with the Backstrap being tight enough to achieve the lift without them. It speeds up the process not to have to use them, and speed is a main motivator for Andrew and Cherry at the moment.

USER FEEDBACK

An interesting point Andrew shared is that

"... we were skeptical for a start with, because you are not standing up upright, you were bent over, but as it worked out that wasn't an issue, just being bent over for 10-20 seconds, doesn't really matter..." Andrew

They are now very happy to have the Kera

"I think now we would be lost without it, we won't even go on holiday now without it, we can pack that (Kera hoist) down, chuck it in the car and go down to our holiday spot. So we can use it down there. Its good, great." Andrew

Andrew now advises HT Systems on new product development and tests prototypes of new devices with the R&D team.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Lounge to bedroom transfer

While HT Systems recommends the Kera only be used to complete transfers and not for transport, Andrew and Cherry found it was simpler for them to transfer straight from his armchair to the bedroom or bathroom as the journey was short and it skipped a two-step transfer process (chair to wheelchair, wheelchair to bed/commode). The bedroom is small and space is tight for transfers without having a wheelchair in their as well.

Travelling with the Kera sit2sit

Andrew and Cherry enjoy getting away to visit friends and family. They have a lightweight travel wheelchair that can be packed in the back of the car. They rely on the Kera for all their transfer routines while away. They have an accessory pack that makes the handle of the Kera easy to unbolt without needing tools, which allows it to fit it in the car and it can be quickly reassembled at their holiday spot.