

Tried and tested

Merivaara Practico Operating Table with 'Beach Chair' Backrest

ANIL CHAKRABARTI, NICHOLAS DENNY & STEPHEN LAMBERT

We have been using the Practico in both day surgery and inpatient operating theatres for more than two years. The Practico with 'Beach Chair' electrically operated backrest is specifically designed for shoulder surgery, although it can also be used as a general-purpose table/trolley. The features we would like to highlight are listed below:

- It is lightweight and therefore easy to move around the theatre complex. The patient can be placed in the correct operating position from the outset with the Practico used in the anaesthetic room, as an operating table and then as a recovery trolley. This virtually eliminates manual handling and also saves valuable time.
- It is electrically operated for the main part, further reducing physical workload for staff.



Figure 1

- It has a multiposition headrest (Figure 1), adjustable in all planes, and removable shoulder supports. We have found that these features allow patients to be comfortably positioned for shoulder surgery, whether awake or asleep, and keep the patient appropriately positioned throughout.

Figures reproduced with the patient's consent.

- There is excellent access for both the surgeon and image intensifier to the shoulders, including posteriorly.
- We carry out most of our arthroscopic shoulder surgery under interscalene block and sedation. The Practico, in a 'beach chair' position, is very comfortable for awake patients (Figure 2) and avoids pressure on the other shoulder, which can be a problem in the lateral position as many patients have bilateral shoulder pain.



Figure 2

- To improve comfort further for awake patients, we have constructed a 'drape bar', which clamps to the side of the Practico and holds the sterile drapes away from the patient's face.
- The Practico's removable foot section, unlike some patient trolleys, has side rails. We have found these useful for attaching the knee support and foot distractor for ankle arthroscopy.

Overall, we have been extremely pleased with the performance of the Practico. We are very happy to recommend it as an easy to use and practical table for arthroscopic and open shoulder surgery.

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PRACTICO
Arthroscopic Beach Chair
operating table

The Merivaara Practico operating table is designed to meet the everyday demands of the Operating Theatre & Day Surgery Unit. The wide range of accessories makes it easy to adapt the table for a wide range of specialist procedures.

The Practico Beach Chair has been specifically designed for shoulder surgery but can also be used as a general purpose operating table

- Practico Beach Chair operating table is sold as a complete package - nothing else to buy. The package includes the unique shoulder surgery head rest; general surgery head rest, patient support belt system and multi-position arm board
- Nothing to be mounted on the table - Practico is a complete operating table
- Practico virtually eliminates manual handling and saves valuable time as patients are positioned for surgery in the beach chair position at the touch of a button
- Patients can be transferred directly from the anaesthetic Room to Operating Theatre on the table - saves time and reduces risk of back injury
- Unique head rest and large removable sections in the backrest offers optimum surgical access for laparoscopic and open shoulder surgery and easy c-arm access
- Multi-position arm board and support belt system ensures correct alignment and safe positioning during surgery

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