

69-19 EG9020BR/L Dental Assistant Stool (Project 02-11) (9/03)



The EG9020BR/L Dental Assistant Stool is an ergonomically-designed stool that is marketed for dental professionals. The stool is said to enhance proper posture while reducing problems associated with musculoskeletal disorders. The EG9020BR/L features include a contoured adjustable backrest that is designed to cradle and support the lumbar region. The synchronized tilt of the seat and backrest are said to promote proper curvature of the spine and the shallow seat pan purportedly keeps the clinician positioned against the backrest while maintaining proper pelvic tilt. The contoured "Cut-Out" seat with waterfall edges is said to enhance proper weight distribution by reducing lower back and thigh pressure which the manufacturer claims helps to eliminate the possibility of circulation compromise to the lower leg. The "Swingmatic" assistant arm provides additional support and adjusts both in the vertically and horizontal dimension, while the 18-inch diameter, circular footring adds to the supporting features.

Asepsis and infection control procedures are said to be maximized with a design that uses screwless components and smooth, seamless vinyl upholstery. The 58-pound stool is available in multiple color schemes and is positioned on a five-caster aluminum base that is advertised to provide both stability and easy maneuverability. The EG9020BR/L Dental Assistant Stool comes with a five-year warranty.

Manufacturer:

The Brewer Company
13901 Main Street
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
(800) 558-8777
(262) 251-9530
(262) 251-1786 FAX
www.brewercompany.com

Suggested Retail Price:

\$1044.75

Government Price:

\$522.38

ADVANTAGES:

- + Accommodates comfortably to various body dimensions.
- + Evaluators reported perceived improved posture, comfort, and reduction in fatigue.
- + Synchronized backrest/seat tilt feature provided proper anatomical sitting alignment.
- + Lockable adjustment mechanisms are conveniently placed.
- + Seat height-adjustment lever allows for adaptation to body height.
- + Adjustable backrest provided good lumbar support.
- + Adjustable locking seat-back tilt allows user control and individualization of stool synchronizing mechanisms.
- + "Swingmatic" body support arm adjusts both in the horizontal and vertical dimension.
- + Footring provides additional support for lower third of body.
- + All mechanisms operated reliably during the course of this evaluation.
- + Seamless vinyl upholstery facilitates cleaning and asepsis.
- + Ergonomic design features a classical look that was reported to be esthetically pleasing.
- + Appears to be of solid-construction with high-quality fit and finish.
- + Five-star caster base with double wheels provided excellent stability and maneuverability.
- + Concise operating instructions complete with graphics for visual interpretation.
- + Available in left-handed or right-handed versions.
- + Includes a five-year warranty.

DISADVANTAGES:

- Bulkiness impeded convenient use in the dental operator.
- "Swingmatic" arm reportedly was difficult to operate.
- More expensive than other dental operator stools on federal service contract.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

The EG9020BR/L Dental Assistant Stool features an ergonomic design that is marketed to improve posture and help reduce lower back pain in the dental environment. The stool was found to be esthetically pleasing, of apparent solid construction, with a high-quality finished appearance. The double-wheeled, five-star caster base provided excellent stability and maneuverability. Features include adjustment mechanisms that allow for individual adaptation which can be locked for individual preference. The stool's seamless vinyl upholstery was found to facilitate asepsis. Some clinical users reported perceived improved posture, work comfort, and reduction in overall fatigue. However, most evaluators reported the stool was too bulky and cumbersome for use in smaller dental treatment rooms and found the "Swingmatic" adjustable armrest difficult to operate. Another downside to the stool is its cost, which is approximately \$150.00 more than other dental assistant stools currently on the federal contract. Most evaluators were ambivalent to many of the stools features and perceived no advantage over other stools in the federal inventory. Consequently, the majority of the evaluators did not recommend its purchase for their clinic. The **EG9020BR/L Assistant Stool** is rated **Marginal** for use by the federal dental services.