

Terminology note:

"Bedridden" and "Homebound"

Every time I use these words I get disability advocates double-checking if these are appropriate words and even trying to stop me from putting them in publications.

Yes, I understand why "wheelchair bound" is not an acceptable phrase, but there are two important differences here - firstly there are literally no alternative words to discuss people who cannot usually leave their bed or house. We can say "wheelchair user" but clearly "house user" or "bed user" does not convey the equivalent meaning.

Secondly, being confined to one's bed/house is in no way an enabling experience in the way that using a wheelchair is enabling.

If anybody wants to work with me to develop new language around this I'd love to participate, but for now this is what we have.