

ABSTRACT

A transport assistance apparatus 1 includes first and second mecanum wheels (21R, 21L), first and second motors (22R, 22L) connected to the first and second mecanum wheels to
5 drive them, first and second current sensors (SW1, SW2) that detect signals corresponding to rotation statuses of the first and second mecanum wheels (21R, 21L), a six-axis sensor (SW5) that detects a turn of a bed (10), and a controller (4). The controller (4) assists a hand-propelled movement of the bed (10) in a front-rear direction when it is determined that the bed is moving forward or rearward without turning, and assists the hand-propelled movement in the front-rear
10 direction and a lateral direction when it is determined that the bed is turning while moving forward or rearward.