



FAQ'S

ORTHOTIC DEVICES

Q: How to cast for an orthosis?

A: Please refer to the casting instructions on page 16.

Q: How to interface a silicone liner with an AFO?

A: If incorporating the silicone liner with a thermoplastic AFO, ensure that the cast for the silicone liner is reflective of the final position required. The liner must be completed prior to fabricating the AFO to obtain an intimate fit. It is possible to thermo-mould over a liner. Please contact Otto Bock for best practices if pursuing this route.

Q: Can a silicone orthosis be used as a direct replacement for a thermoplastic device?

A: Silicone is designed to protect or control motion but cannot stop motion as aggressively as plastic or metal. It is intended to be used for mild instabilities or muscle weaknesses.

Q: Why use silicone in orthotics?

A: Unlike thermoplastic, silicone creates a soft interface between the client and their device thereby eliminating many of the issues found when using more rigid

materials i.e. edge pressure(s), bony prominences, pistoning, friction, etc. Silicone provides circumferential support to an extremity while still allowing for some degree of motion and is easily donned and doffed.

Q: Can clients wear their liners without their AFO when at home?

A: The liners are **not** to be worn without the AFO unless otherwise agreed upon by you during the trial phase.

Q: Is there a trial orthotic device?

A: Yes, to ensure the desired outcome is achieved, a trial orthotic device is recommended and worn for a period of two weeks on a daily basis. This will allow us to determine that the correct total contact surface is attained and that the suspension and support is appropriate for your client. It will allow us to determine the client's level of tolerance and the reaction of their skin to the silicone. Any necessary changes will be made during this phase to ensure that the needs and expectations of your clients are met. The final product is then crafted.

Q: When is my client not a candidate for a custom silicone orthosis?

A: The client is not a candidate when experiencing any of the following:

- Significant volume fluctuations
- Open ulceration
- Unresolved skin irritation
ex: eczema

Q: How long will the orthotic device last?

A: The life expectancy of the device depends on how it is used and maintained.

Q: Are there special cleaning instructions?

A: The orthotic device can be cleaned with mild soap and water. For further detail, refer to Care and Cleaning instructions on page 18.