PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

surestep

DCO
Dynamic Cervical Orthosis

The Surestep DCO is the most advanced system available for the treatment of head drop. This truly dynamic device is the only system available that supports a neutral, midline position, while still allowing normal movement. Through the use of the dynamic resistance bands, the DCO offers a resistance to movement helping to facilitate strengthening of the musculature of the neck, while assisting with re-centering in midline.

KEY FEATURES

- Adjustable tension resistance bands can accommodate any degree of head drop
- Resistance bands can be "loaded" to combat asymmetries in tightness of neck musculature
- Low Profile: Can be worn under normal clothing
- Easily contoured to fit any body shape
- Adjustable for different heights and head shapes

INDICATIONS

- Poor Head Control
- Neck Weakness
- Head Drop (Ptosis)
- Parkinson's Disease
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Myopathy
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
- Poor Head Control Due to Hypotonic Cerebral Palsy
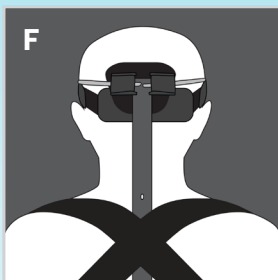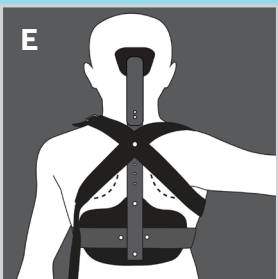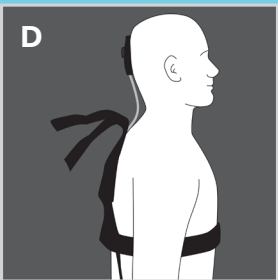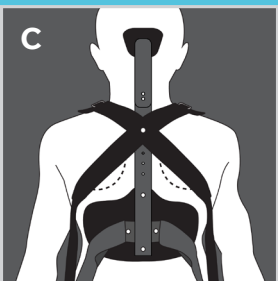
CONTRA-INDICATIONS

- Rigidity of the Neck Musculature
- Fusion of the Cervical Vertebrae
- Fixed Neck Position
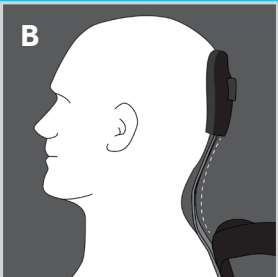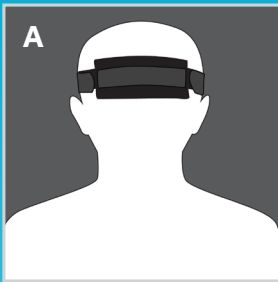
The DCO should always be worn over a light T-shirt or undergarment and not directly against the skin.

1 Apply headband with the foam side against the skin and hair, so that the wide section is centered posteriorly. **Figure A**
- *Tighten to a comfortable snug fit, taking care to tighten both the left and right sides evenly.*

2 Position the upright so that the occipital support rests comfortably over the apex of the occiput. This should locate the ROM hinge at the height of the lower cervical spine. **Figure B**

3 Check the location of the thoracic pad and confirm that the superior trimline is located just below the inferior angle of the scapula. **Figure C**
- *If relocation of the thoracic pad is necessary, removed the two Chicago screws attaching the thoracic pad and relocate the pad to the proper height.*
- *If the metal upright extends below the inferior trimline of the thoracic pad, it may be necessary to cut the excess material away using a hacksaw.*
- *Reattach thoracic pad to metal upright using two Chicago screws.*
- *It will likely be required that you contour the upright to match the natural curve of the thoracic and cervical spine to achieve the proper angle for the cranial rest pad.*
- *Contouring of the upright can be done over a chair-back or using contouring irons.*

4 Attach the encircling strap around the torso (at lower rib level) and adjust tension to a snug level, adequate to hold the DCO in place while adjusting the shoulder straps. **Figure D**

5 Attach shoulder straps, one at a time. Tension the straps to a snug tightness when the arm is fully extended and abducted. Once shoulder straps are tensioned to a proper fit, the quick connect buckle can be used going forward for ease of donning and doffing. **Figure E**
- *Check tension with arm down at the side to ensure that the straps are not over-tightened.*

QUICK DISCONNECT

6 Check the tension of the encircling strap around the torso and make any adjustments necessary.

7 Attach the remaining loose side of the elastic bands to the spring hooks attached to the headband. **Figure F**
- *If any minor adjustment is needed to the tension of the elastic bands, adjustment can be made by releasing the cam buckles on the back of the posterior cranial rest pad and sliding the strap to increase or decrease tension.*

> If the product is not functioning properly due to a manufacturer's defect, we will repair the product for you at **no charge within 30 days from the date of purchase.**

LAUREL Medical Solutions

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