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## PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PADDED KYDEX CHAIRBACK ORTHOSIS

Your Physician has ordered the Chairback Orthosis for your spinal bracing. We believe that the following wearing and care instructions will assist you while this brace is worn.

## Wearing of the Chairback Orthosis

- A well fitting cotton t-shirt or undershirt is suggested to be worn under the brace.
   This will help protect the skin from irritation and keep the orthosis (brace) clean.
   Silk or other slippery fabrics will cause the orthosis to slide more than normal on the body. Make certain that all wrinkles are pulled out of any shirt worn under the brace.
- 2. The orthosis is comprised of a Kydex padded frame that fits across the back and a padded corset front. The thinner thoracic band will fit just below the bottom tip of your scapula (shoulder blade or wing bone) and the wider pelvic band will grasp the pelvis for support. Care must be taken to properly align the orthosis on the body. The bottom of the pelvic band should be centered at the level of the coccyx (tailbone).
- 3. The smaller point of the triangle should be pointing to the top of the brace with the opening centered on the back so that the spinous process (boney portion of your spine) is in the middle. It is very important that the brace is placed on the back at the same level that it was originally fit and not twisted. Failure to follow these fitting instructions will cause the brace to apply pressures at the wrong level and be more uncomfortable to wear.
- 4. The padded corset front should be applied so that the material is smoothly centered on the abdomen and located just above the pubic bone at the bottom front. The material should not be folded over on itself. Loosely attach all straps from bottom to the top. Now tighten the straps by pulling the end of the straps and sticking the velcro on itself.
- 5. Once these straps are tightened, you may choose to open only one side of the corset for ease of application.
- 6. If you should experience a weight loss or gain that can not be accommodated by tightening or loosening the velcro straps on the corset front, you may need to contact this office for an appointment to modify the brace of corset front.

It should be kept in mind that this brace is not directly attached to the skeleton and may move on the body especially if the corset straps are not securely fastened. These straps should be snug enough to give good support but not so tight to cause difficulty breathing.

Your Physician will determine if it is necessary to sleep in this brace. Depending on your individual condition, he or she may want you to wear the Chairback Brace only while you are out of bed.

## Care of the Chairback Orthosis

You should not shower or tub while wearing this brace. The padded sections may be removed for cleaning and hand washing the material in a mild soap and water. **DO NOT PUT THESE MATERIALS IN A WASHING MACHINE.** The Kydex portions of your brace may be cleaned with saddle soap.

Should you have any questions regarding this brace, please feel free to call our office at any time at (419) 893-0748 and our staff will be happy to assist you.

Thank you Marshall-Kloene Orthopedics