



MarshallKloene

Designers of Custom Orthopaedic Braces,
Prosthetic Limbs and Foot Orthoses

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**THORACO-LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS
(T.L.S.O.)
APPLICATION PROCEDURE
NICKNAMES: CLAMSHELL, BODY JACKET,
TURTLE SHELL**

1. You should wear some form of cotton undershirt under your brace. (No nylon, silk or satin materials.) These materials may cause the orthosis (brace) to slide on your body. The undershirt should be longer than the orthosis and fit fairly snug.
2. Log roll the patient on their side.
3. Take the posterior (back) shell and match the indents of the T.L.S.O. with the area of the waist, just above the crest of the pelvis.
* Note* The bottom of the back has a cutout at the midline for the coccyx (tail bone). Center the posterior shell on the back as much as possible.
4. Roll back into the shell. Once again, check to make sure that the shell is centered and the indents are just above the iliac crest.
5. **VERY IMPORTANT!! PLACE THE ANTERIOR (FRONT) SHELL OUTSIDE OF THE BACK SHELL, MAKING SURE THAT THE INDENTS FROM THE BACK AND FRONT SECTIONS MATCH.**
6. Starting at the bottom, tighten the velcro straps equally on each side until the fit is snug. NOTE: The top strap may be loosened slightly, if needed, to allow for ease in respiration.
7. Pull all wrinkles out of the undershirt before fully tightening the orthosis.
8. Do not attempt to apply the orthosis while in a seated position. You will be unable to achieve adequate tightness while in this position.
9. Check with local police regarding the laws while driving with a body jacket. Local laws may vary.

POSSIBLE PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS:

1. The T.L.S.O. is riding up too high in the throat area:

Solution: A: Check the proper position of the orthosis and adjust according to the T.L.S.O. application procedure.

B: Check the bend of the patient's bed to make sure that it is at the same level as the patient's hips. Failure to do so will result in the orthosis migrating up the body.

C: Make sure the orthosis is being tightened properly. If the patient has lost a significant amount of weight since the orthosis was fitted, adjustments will need to be made by the orthosis.

2. Skin breakdown.

Solution: A: Check to make sure that the patient has a cotton undershirt on under the T.L.S.O. and is free of wrinkles between the brace and the patient.

B. Change the undershirt frequently. This can be done by removing the anterior shell with the patient supine (on their back), sliding the soiled shirt over the head, log roll to pull the back down, re-position the posterior shell, pull the wrinkles out of the front portion of the short and re-apply the anterior section.

C. Contact the orthotist on call if above measures fail to resolve the problem.

3. Too Hot.

Solution: A: Change the undershirt frequently.

B: Powder the patient's body and the inside of both the anterior and posterior shell of the brace.

C: Although air holes were placed in the T.L.S.O. a fan may prove to increase the patient's comfort.

CLEANING

-use a mild soap and cool water

-dry thoroughly

-for tougher stains, a toothbrush may be used

-baby powder may be applied to keep the T.L.S.O. fresh and clean smelling

If you have any other questions concerning your brace or its application, please feel free to call this office at (419)893-0748 and our staff will be happy to assist you.

Thank you