

## Night Splint

You have been fit with a night splint Ankle foot Orthosis (AFO). Unless otherwise instructed, please use a gradual break in schedule to allow your body to get used to the device. Begin wearing the night splint for the amount of time tolerated, for example 3 hours. Add an additional wearing- hour or two per night as tolerated. After removal of your orthosis inspect your skin. There may be some skin redness from pressure areas. Redness which persists for more than 15 minutes after removal can be a sign of excessive pressure. If this should happen, or if there are any signs of numbness, tingling, color change, excessive itching, swelling or pain please do not reapply the orthosis and contact our office for an adjustment. Failure to do so may lead to skin irritations and discomfort.

Your night splint should always be worn with a sock. The sock must extend past the top of the orthosis. Even if your night splint has tread on the bottom they are not designed for ambulation and it is recommended it be removed before ambulation. All straps on the orthosis should be snug, but not tight. Your orthosis can be cleaned with a wash cloth and mild soapy water. Make certain all soap residue is removed and the orthosis is completely dry before re-applying. Avoid using a hair dryer or placing near a heater to speed up the drying process as this may damage the device. Make certain the orthosis is reapplied properly, with all straps secured snugly.

Be certain you are comfortable with putting on and taking off your orthosis and never attempt to modify your orthosis yourself. Please inspect your orthosis daily for any signs of wear including cracking, loose parts or decreased effectiveness of the device and call our office if needed. Also, don't hesitate to call if you have any questions about wearing the device. A yearly check up is recommended.

If you were given specific manufacturer care instructions for your orthosis please be sure to follow the directions closely.