

ORTHOSEAT

OrthoSEAT Customizes the "ROHO®"

Therapy and rehab professionals are familiar with ROHO air floatation seat cushions used to provide skin protection for long term wheelchair users. The cushion has been around for over 30 years. The original High Profile single valve cushion (as shown below without a cover) is often the cushion of choice for those with high risk of pressure ulcers. ROHO products all have something in common - a valve that allows for adjusting the amount of air it holds for variations in pressure relief. It is designed to match the body contour, redistributing body weight and minimizing pressure "hot spots." This concept has proven effective over time and has many pressure studies to support its use.



Over time the manufacturer has modified the ROHO cushion to address various niche needs including: lower height cushions, compartment separation of air chambers (Quadtro), special shaped cushions for commode seats and even cushions for motorcycles, truck drivers and office chairs. A more recent design has included combinations of foam for base stability and air for pressure relief (Nexus Spirit). Even with these innovations, we've encountered cases requiring a high profile (4" high cells) for maximum skin protection and modification for added stability during transfers. One example is someone physically able to do a wheelchair transfer but the ROHO cushion has nowhere to place a hand to securely push, thus the client is unstable during the transfer and feels insecure. This often leads to rejection of the cushion and complications with pressure areas.

OrthoSEAT staff sees a wide range of clinical diagnoses with high risk for pressure problems. In the past two years we have experimented with a design incorporating a High Profile (4" high cells) ROHO cushion and SunMate® pressure sensitive supportive foam. The ROHO is positioned at the rear or ischial / coccyx area (the primary pressure challenge) of the seat and SunMate pressure sensitive foam layers are under the thighs near the front of the cushion. This front portion is customized for leg length discrepancies, or abductor positioning needs. A solid base is beneath the entire cushion and notched to the necessary height needed for stable functional transfers. The result has been a highly functional cushion with client's acceptance of the pressure relief properties of the ROHO air floatation. The cushion offers the best of both the air floatation technology and customization for postural support, stability and function.

Photos of the custom seat during construction.



OrthoSEAT Customizes the “ROHO®” – cont.



Photos of the custom seat during construction.

For more information on this cushion design or its clinical applications, please contact one of the OrthoSEAT therapists at 616-242-0342 or 1-800-211-4813. For more information on ROHO cushion technology you can visit their website at www.therohogroup.com

PROSTHETICS

Otto Bock and Mary Free Bed Prosthetics

On Tuesday, September 29th, Mary Free Bed Prosthetics hosted the second in a series of Prosthetic workshops sponsored by Otto Bock. Otto Bock is a world-wide company that manufactures prosthetic components and supplies. The workshop topic was “Lower Extremity Road Show” and centered on “above the knee” and “below the knee” components.

Mark Edwards, CP, has a masters in health professionals education, and Michele Murdoch, representatives from Otto Bock, were on hand to instruct our prosthetic department during the day-long event.

Mary Free Bed’s clinical prosthetic staff, along with technical prosthetic staff and outpatient physical

therapists, participated in the event. The morning started with a review of current lower extremity prosthetic components; knees and feet offered by Otto Bock. A number of patients assisted in the program with demonstration and instruction of the C-leg®.

Mary Free Bed currently has over fifty C-leg users. Six current C-leg patients were involved in critiquing the use of their limbs and components. Much insight was achieved with information exchanged between the interaction of Mark Edwards, our staff, and most importantly, our patient’s prosthetic results.



Pictured left to right: John Keur, patient; Harry Zemmer, patient; Dave Firlik, CP; Tony VanEss, CP; Valerie Wallace, patient; and Patrick Nimphie, CPO, Clinical Manager.



Pictured: Harry Zemmer, patient.

A review of starting alignment was used as a building block for better understanding of the C-leg gait analysis. This led to further understanding of the computerized adjustments that can be made to the C-leg unit to optimize performance.

Otto Bock and Mary Free Bed Prosthetics – cont.

The TRIAS and AXTION DP feet were highlighted and demonstrated on a select group of patients. The patients that trialed these feet were also checked on the LASER POSTURE with alignment and review.



Pictured: Michelle Bidwell, patient; and Mark Edwards, CP from Otto Bock.

Otto Bock's LASER POSTURE is a device employed to help align the prosthesis. The device projects a laser light onto the patient and their prosthesis in either the front or side view. This laser line indicates the correct position of the prosthesis components relative to the body. LASER POSTURE also includes a scale that accurately measures the proportion of weight bearing on the prosthesis. The goal is to achieve at least 50% of the patient's weight in the prosthesis during balanced standing. Many times we find that patients are not standing with equal weight distribution.

Restoring Hope and *Freedom*
Mary Free Bed
Rehabilitation Hospital

2010 Upcoming Events:

Upper Extremity Prosthetics

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

11:30 am – 1:30 pm (lunch provided)

2nd floor Conference Room/Main Hospital

235 Wealthy ST SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

616-242-0300 or 800-528-8989

Topics to Be Discussed:

*Upper Extremity Statistics *Amputation Levels
*Functional Considerations *Current Prosthetic Systems
*Body Powered-Myo Electric-Adaptive Devices *I Limb
*The Future of Upper Extremity Prosthetics *Neuro
Implants * DARPA *Department of Defense *NASA
Research

Please RSVP by February 10, 2010

Space is limited and is on a first come, first served basis.

Please contact Stephanie Millis at 616-242-0305 or

E Mail Stephanie.Millis@MaryFreeBed.com

ORTHOTICS

O & P Polio Patient Publishes Children's Books

Jan Wiltse has been getting her braces for conditions relating to her polio from the Orthotics Department at Mary Free Bed Orthotics and Prosthetics for many years.

"Throughout the 20+ years, I have seen a variety of orthotists and pedorthists, and they have all been wonderful", said Jan. She added, "They all go that extra mile and I don't have to worry about the quality of my care; it's always excellent."

"One time," Jan said, "I was leaving for a camping trip and my brace broke. Pat Dorgan squeezed me in and fit my brace before I left." She added, "He went the extra mile and made me a little 'survival' kit so I could do some minor repairs on my own while I was in the middle of nowhere."

"Becky DeLongpre, pedorthist, who I see regularly, recently called me up to tell me that there was a new product on the market that she thought I would be an ideal candidate for," said Jan. "Also, going that extra mile!"

O & P Polio Patient Publishes Children's Books – cont.

Jan Wiltse has authored several faith-based children's books. She began writing the books when she found it difficult to find many children's books that were faith-based to read to her grandchildren. As a former teacher, Jan's interests were in promoting children's growth educationally *and* spiritually. Jan, while waiting in the waiting room at Mary Free Bed, met another patient whose daughter is pictured in her books.

For more information about Jan and her children's books, you can go to her website at www.godswayproductions.com.

For more information about any of Mary Free Bed's Orthotics or Prosthetics services, you can access our website at www.maryfreebedoandp.com, or call us at 616-242-0305 or 1-800-474-0324.



!! ATTENTION PHYSICIANS!!

Medicare has implemented an Internet-based provider enrollment process known as:

Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System or "PECOS".

Effective April 1, 2010, Medicare will not pay for DME, Orthotic or Prosthetic claims whose referring physician is not enrolled in the PECOS system.

To avoid unnecessary delays in patient service, we strongly urge you to visit this web site and complete the enrollment process as soon as possible.

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/04_InternetbasedPECOS.asp

The process may take up to 45 days for approval and the deadline is approaching quickly.

Therapeutic Shoes for Diabetes: Physician Documentation Requirements

In following Medicare's requirements to provide diabetic shoes and inserts to Medicare participants, it is important that the treating physician complete and sign a form, SCP, which states all of the coverage requirements have been met. There must also be documentation in your records that you are managing their diabetes and that one of the conditions listed on the form 3a-3f is present. If requested by the supplier, you must provide copies of those records. In order for these items to be reimbursed for your patients, the DME provider will need to collect the above mentioned medical documentation.

We realize this is additional paperwork required from your office, and we will only request required information to allow Medicare to cover these items.

Further clarification of this medical policy can be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mcd/search.asp> or by calling our office: 242-0315

Sports Braces

It is important to our overall health to be involved in sports, but individuals can sometimes sustain injuries that may require bracing while participating in sports.

Did you know that Mary Free Bed Orthotics offers sports braces? We can provide either off-the-shelf or custom braces, and many of these braces are covered by insurance.

- Knee
- Wrist
- Face Fracture Masks
- Elbow
- Foot
- Ankle
- Shoulder
- Other Miscellaneous

To find out more about sports braces or to schedule an appointment, contact Mary Free Bed Orthotics at 616-242-0315.

Mary Free Bed Orthotics and Prosthetics goes on the Road and Takes Patients on a Walk-in Basis

Do you know that Mary Free Bed Orthotics and Prosthetics can provide patient services in the patient's home or assisted living facility?

If you have a patient that has difficulty finding transportation to our office to get necessary services, we can service that patient by going to them.

If your patient has traveled a distance to your office and needs our services while there in town, all of our offices will see patients on a walk-in basis.

As walk-ins are provided on a first come, first served basis, you may call our office to see if we have other walk-in patients ahead of your patient and might be able to determine approximate wait time. We may suggest that the patient schedule an appointment for another day or time.

To find out more about our off-site and satellite services, please call 616-242-0315.

Mary Free Bed Orthotics Completes Micro Processor Stance Control Knee Class

Clinical staff at MFB attended and completed requirements for fitting the Otto Bock stance control knees: the Sensor Walk, E-Mag and Free Walk.

This new technology design allows patients to have free knee flexion during swing phase, and knee locking during initial contact and mid stance. This allows for more efficient gait, less energy expenditure, and provides knee stability during weight bearing.

Patients with knee and hip extension weakness, diagnosis of spinal cord injury, polio and femoral nerve injury may benefit from this new design. Call Orthotics at 616-242-0315 if you need more information.

For more O & P news, you will find our current and back issues of the Orthotics and Prosthetics Clinical Bulletin on our website:

www.maryfreebedoandp.com

Look under the "News" tab.

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