

DVT-INFO

Who Is at Risk

The majority of people with deep vein thrombosis are 60 years of age or older, however, this condition can strike anyone at risk. In addition to injury or immobility, certain cancers, surgery complications, pregnancy, long airline flights, and taking oral contraceptives are all linked to an increased risk of DVT. Symptoms of DVT include pain, tenderness, swelling, skin discoloration, as well as skin that is warm to the touch. Despite these signs, 50% of people with DVT experienced no symptoms whatsoever, making the condition a silent killer.

Many factors increase your risk for deep vein thrombosis (DVT). They include:

- ***A history of DVT.***
- ***Disorders or factors that make your blood thicker or more likely to clot than normal. Certain inherited blood disorders (such as factor V Leiden) will do this. This also is true of treatment with hormone replacement therapy or birth control pills.***
- ***Injury to a deep vein from surgery, a broken bone, or other trauma.***
- ***Slow blood flow in a deep vein from lack of movement. This may occur after surgery, if you're ill and in bed for a long time, or if you're traveling for a long time.***
- ***Pregnancy and the first 6 weeks after giving birth.***
- ***Recent or ongoing treatment for cancer.***
- ***A central venous catheter. This is a tube placed in a vein to allow easy access to the bloodstream for medical treatment.***
- ***Being older than 60 (although DVT can occur at any age).***
- ***Being [overweight or obese](#)***

This is what separates our unit

- Battery operated = portability = compliance. What I mean is because the patient doesn't need to disconnect the garments and they can go from the bed to the bathroom still connected the compliance goes up. If compliance goes up then the chance of forming a DVT goes down.
- Portability is there during transport to PT or if discharges to recover at home it is small and can be worn in the car to and from the doctor's office etc.
- Cost effective..... Much lower cost than other units on the market.
- Made in the USA

Instructional Video- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7yAXK9MEnMQ>

DVT Garment

Hold Time 5 Seconds

Cycle Time 1 Minute

ThermoActive Support

Hold Time 20 seconds Cycle Time 3 minutes DVT to cycle twice every three minutes.

DVT cycle time is interrupted by (*ThermoActive/Joint Compression***) which is always 3 minutes causing

DVT to cycle twice every three minutes.



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How it works.

- Same DVT prophylaxis theory-increase venous velocity reducing venous stasis.
- Works with Poly Gel cuffs by inflating the bladder and holding for 20 seconds
- Cycles- 2 DVT cycles for every one Cold cycle
- Battery Life-Worst case with all 3 ports functioning is 8 hours



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Symptoms

- Approximately one-half of those with a DVT never have recognized symptoms.
- When symptoms are present, the most common is leg pain and tenderness in the calf muscles, or one may observe swelling or a change in color of one leg to purple or blue. These signs and symptoms may appear suddenly or may steadily develop over a short time.



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DVT Statistics

- DVT is a common but serious condition that occurs in roughly **2 Million** Americans each year.
- Approximately 300,000 Americans die each year as a result of DVT-more than Breast Cancer and AIDS combined
- Common therapy for DVT prevention is
 1. Pharmaceutical- Coumadin, Heparin, Lovanox
 2. Passive Compression- TED Hose
 3. Mechanical Compression-ICD's and SCD's



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Difference between ICD and SCD

ICD- Intermittent Compression Device compresses the limb in a static sequence intermittently at a set pressure

SCD-Sequential Compression Device compresses the limb sequentially from distal to proximal usually through segmented garments.

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How do ICD's and SCD's prevent DVT?

These devices prevent lower extremity deep venous thrombosis in most patient populations. Their primary mechanism of action is an increase in venous velocity in the lower extremities which reduces venous stasis.

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Features and Benefits of the Ca5 System

- Lightweight and Portable-Weighs less than 1lb
- Portability leads to increased compliance
- Battery Operated-15 hrs of Battery life for Single Leg Therapy and 8hrs of Battery Life for Dual Leg Therapy
- Variable Pressure Setting-Able to adjust Pressure to Patients Tolerance



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- Portable devices have shown efficacy in reducing post surgical bleeding by reducing the amount of anticoagulant prescribed.

[*The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, March 2010; 92\(3\): 527-535*](#)

Thrombosis Prevention after Total Hip Arthroplasty: A Prospective Randomized Trial Comparing a Mobile Compression Device with Low Molecular Weight Heparin

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Patients with an Active diagnosed DVT should not use and ICD/SCD including the Ca5 for fear the clot will be dislodged.

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FAQ's

1. Will the pump operate when I have it plugged in?
 - A. Yes. The pump works on battery and when it is plugged into the wall.
2. Can the sleeves be worn in direct contact with my skin?
 - A. Yes. The sleeves can be worn against the skin. If contact dermatitis occurs place a thin sock between the skin and the cuff.
3. Do I need to change the pressure of the sleeve?
 - A. No. The pressure is pre-set.
4. Can I wash the cuffs if they become soiled?
 - A. The cuffs are meant to be single patient use but can be washed with mild soap.