THOMAS SPLINT FITTING INSTRUCTIONS

Selecting the correct sized splint and hoop is made easier as the system is designed to be adjustable. See brochure for sizing on both splint and hoops. The splint itself comes in two sizes termed adult and paediatric although the adjustment range does mean that the adult version will cater for large paediatrics and the paediatric version will suit small adults. There are six hoops that cover the range and generally the four smallest will suit paediatrics whilst the fourth largest will suit adults thus giving an overlap of the middle two sizes.

1. PATIENT MEASUREMENT - Measure the patient's uninjured leg for both inside leg and thigh dimensions. Select the splint and hoop size to suit. The design of the hoop and wrap assembly naturally allows adjustment to cater for swelling.

2. SPLINT ADJUSTMENT - Having selected the Thomas splint, adjust the length to suit the inside leg measurement ensuring that both sides are adjusted to the same length. Length increments in both inches and centimeters are marked on the sides of the outer tubes and the small cap head screw acts as an indicator of length. Following this, attach the hoop by inserting both ends into the housings on each end of the outer tubes. Having inverted the nuts to their maximum penetration ensuring that both have ‘clicked’ positively into position, the splint can then be adjusted to suit either right or left leg application by extending the appropriate side to obtain an angle of approx 20 to 30 degrees. Once again ensuring that a positive ‘click’ is heard confirming correct positioning.

3. SPLINT PREPARATION (CONTINUED) - From the traction kit, select the two packs of gamgee padding. The longest piece should be placed along the full length of splint directly on top of the slings and trimmed in size to length commensurate to that of the leg is achieved. Eight slings are provided, four large and four medium. It may be beneficial to tether the first sling to the hoop wrap with a couple of strips of Velcro® hook from the pack provided.

4. SPLINT PREPARATION (CONTINUED) - From the traction kit, select the two packs of gamgee padding. The longest piece should be placed along the full length of splint directly on top of the slings and trimmed in size to length commensurate to that of the leg is achieved. Eight slings are provided, four large and four medium. It may be beneficial to tether the first sling to the hoop wrap with a couple of strips of Velcro® hook from the pack provided.

5. POSITIONING OF LEG IN SPLINT - Having applied the skin traction, the leg can now be placed onto the prepared splint. The hoop with wrap attached should reach the ischial tuberosity and the strip adjusted to allow the buckle to be fastened comfortably around the leg. With this completed, the foot should automatically find its position as described in instruction 4. Following this final bandaging procedure the splint with leg encased can temporarily on a pillow whilst the leg is bandaged using the crepe bandages supplied. The gamgee pad can be removed from the hoop wrap and replaced in the leg if further adjustment to the leg position is needed.

Cleaning information: hand wash / air dry

PEARSON ATTACHMENT FITTING INSTRUCTIONS

The Pearson Attachment comes with the spring clip, locking spindle and locking knobs loosely pre-assembled. To attach the Thomas Splint carefully disassemble the parts and ‘snap’ each of the spring clips over the outer tubes of the Thomas Splint with the slotted sides facing away from the splint.

1. PEARSON KNEE FLEXION ATTACHMENT - Early mobilisation, as advised by the medical professional, can be achieved by using a Pearson knee flexion attachment that is specifically designed for use with the Thomas splint. The attachments come in two sizes, adult and paediatric and are adjustable to match exactly the extended format of the Thomas splint that it is intended to be used in conjunction with.

2. POSITIONING OF LEG IN PEARSON ATTACHMENT - It is secured to the outer tube on either side of the splint with adjustable clamps in the areas adjacent to the knee axis. Subject to the type of traction being used the appropriate slings and the traction system are transferred from the Thomas splint to the Pearson attachment. Once again subject to the type of overhead pulley system being used an adjustable cord may be used to gradually advance the range of permissible knee flexion and a further cord provided to allow the patient to assist knee flexion manually.

Offer up the Pearson Attachment and pass the locking spindles through the spring clips and upper ends of the attachment so that the screw thread of the spindles protrude through the slots in the outer sides of the spring clips. Attach the locking knobs and loosely tighten, position device as described previously and tighten both locking knobs to secure in position.

Ossur UK Ltd. Building 3000, Manchester Business Park, Aviator Way, Manchester M22 5TG. Tel: 08450 065 065 Fax: 0161 490 8501 Email: ossuruk@ossur.com www.ossur.co.uk

Life Without Limitations®