

Cystic Fibrosis

High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation (HFCWO) — A Proven Therapy for Reducing the Risk of Lung Infections Associated with Cystic Fibrosis

If you or someone you care for has cystic fibrosis, you know all too well how damaging the condition is to the lungs and digestive system, since it affects the cells that produce mucus, sweat and digestive fluids. Due to a defective gene, the body produces thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs and other organs. In the lungs, the thick mucus allows germs to thrive and can lead to life-threatening lung infections.

To help prevent and reduce the severity of those infections, the ability to cough up mucus from the airways in the lungs — referred to as airway clearance — is critical. In order to promote airway clearance, a physician will likely prescribe daily treatments such as manual chest physiotherapy (CPT), postural drainage, Cough Assist or handheld oscillating PEP devices.

You may find that a caregiver can't always be on hand to provide manual chest physiotherapy exactly when it's needed. In addition, some patients are unable to tolerate special positioning required for postural drainage therapy. And oscillating PEP devices may not deliver the required level of therapy on their own.

When prescribed treatments for improving airway clearance associated with cystic fibrosis don't provide effective relief, there's another option: SmartVest® Airway Clearance System.

About the SmartVest Airway Clearance System

The SmartVest Airway Clearance System uses high frequency chest wall oscillation (HFCWO), a <u>proven clinical therapy</u> that helps to clear the lungs of excess mucus, reducing the risk of respiratory infections and hospitalizations. When patients with cystic fibrosis use the simple, comfortable SmartVest System as intended, the changes can be life-transforming.

The <u>SmartVest System</u> consists of an inflatable garment connected to a programmable air pulse generator. During therapy, the SmartVest garment delivers a rapidly repeating pulse of air, alternately squeezing and releasing the upper body. Each squeeze simulates a "mini cough," which acts to loosen, thin and propel mucus toward major airways, where it can be more readily coughed up or suctioned away.

Is the SmartVest Airway Clearance System Right for You? Talk to Your Doctor about the Benefits HFCWO Therapy Offers

Health care coverage for HFCWO therapy varies. Your health plan might specify certain clinical conditions for the use of HFCWO, which can include a requirement that other therapies be tried first. Talk to your doctor about if and when the SmartVest System might be medically appropriate for you or your loved one. Take the SmartVest prescription and certificate of medical necessity form with you to your doctor to have a discussion about the benefits HFCWO therapy offers.

Reimbursement Assistance

At Electromed we understand that health care can be costly, and many of our patients have mounting medical bills. It is our goal to take the stress off of you and work with your insurance provider on your behalf. Our <u>reimbursement team</u> acts as an advocate to gain reimbursement from your insurance provider and works diligently with your doctor to complete all necessary forms.

Discover all the unique benefits of the SmartVest Airway Clearance System by Electromed <u>here</u>.

References: mayoclinic.org Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (cff.org)

ELECTROMED, INC.

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