



AIRWAY CLEARANCE SYSTEM

Muscular Dystrophy

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

If you're the parent of a child with muscular dystrophy or have the condition yourself, you know that the condition can affect different people in different ways. In many cases — particularly in the most common form, Duchenne muscular dystrophy — the condition affects the muscles associated with breathing. As lung muscles weaken, the ability to cough up mucus can be impaired and mucus can pool in the lungs, allowing bacteria to thrive. The result can be an increase in lung infections and ultimately respiratory failure.

However, routine airway clearance can help keep the lungs free of germ-harboring secretions and reduce the risk of infection. In order to promote airway clearance, a physician may prescribe manual chest physiotherapy (CPT) and postural drainage, as well as handheld oscillating PEP devices. But you or your child may have trouble tolerating the positioning and percussion that manual chest physiotherapy requires. And handheld devices can prove inadequate for the level of airway clearance that's required.

When prescribed treatments for improving airway clearance associated with muscular dystrophy 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 proven clinical therapy that helps to clear the lungs of excess mucus, reducing the risk of respiratory infections and hospitalizations. When patients with muscular dystrophy use the simple, comfortable SmartVest System as intended, the changes can be life-transforming.

The SmartVest System 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 reimbursement team 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 here.

References:

mayoclinic.org

patient.co.uk

healthofchildren.com (*Encyclopedia of Children's Health*)

[Muscular Dystrophy Australia](http://MuscularDystrophyAustralia.com)

ELECTROMED, INC.

Making life's important moments possible — one breath at a time.®

Corporate Headquarters

500 Sixth Avenue NW

New Prague, MN 56071

Phone: 800-462-1045 or 952-758-9299

Fax: 952-223-6253

www.smartvest.com