



AIRWAY CLEARANCE SYSTEM

## Quadriplegia

# High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation (HFCWO) — A Proven Therapy for Reducing the Risk of Respiratory Complications Associated with Quadriplegia

If you're living with quadriplegia, you've learned how to lead a successful, fulfilling life. You also know the daily challenges of managing your condition. Because quadriplegia affects chest wall and diaphragm muscle function, the ability to mobilize secretions may be impacted. As a result, excess mucus may accumulate in the lungs, which can lead to recurrent respiratory complications. Because it's necessary to cough up mucus from the airways to prevent respiratory complications, regular airway clearance therapy is critical.

To prevent respiratory complications associated with quadriplegia, a doctor may prescribe several airway clearance techniques including coughing techniques, manual chest physiotherapy (CPT) with postural drainage and use of breathing devices that vibrate the airways. However, people with quadriplegia may find the proper use of handheld devices difficult to achieve and CPT demands the constant assistance of a skilled caregiver.

*When prescribed treatments for improving airway clearance associated with quadriplegia 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 quadriplegia 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:

*BrainandSpinalCord.org*

## **ELECTROMED, INC.**

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

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