



ACE Brace TM

Quick Reference Questions

Q: Which style of ACE Brace is the most popular?

A: The ACE-PV is the most popular style, followed closely by ACE-PS. The reason these two styles are the most popular is because the V shaped pectoral frame keeps the pads off the sternum and the neck open, and because the pectoral pads are so comfortable.

Q: How many styles of ACE Brace are available?

A: There are 3 styles of ACE Brace which have 2 main configurations: Sternal ACE-ST and Pectoral (ACE-PV or -PS).

Q: You offer two pectoral styles (ACE-PV and -PS). What is the difference?

A: Both have pectoral pads riding on the pectoral muscles. Both contain our patented fully-articulating, self-centering "hinges." The difference is that the ACE-PV uses black foam rubber attached by Velcro (which can be readily repositioned by the patient) and the ACE-PS uses molded silicone hinges that are attached by a plate to the V-shaped bar.

Benefits:

Q: In what way is the ACE Brace better than other hyperextension braces?

A: 3 major improvements make the ACE Brace better than other cruciform hyperextension orthoses:

- 1) **V-style pectoral top** – This design eliminates sternal pressure and throat impingement, which in turn eliminates return visits to the orthotist for orthosis re-adjustment.
- 2) **Front closure** – This eases donning by elderly patients with arthritic hands and limited ROM.
- 3) **One-size-fits-all Back Strap** – This benefit is for the orthotist: You always have the right size strap, up to 54" circumference! Simply cut it to the desired length and attach the Velcro Y-tab.



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Indications:

Q: For what pathologies is the ACE Brace indicated?

A: The ACE Brace is indicated for the following pathologies:

- Stable compression fractures between T-7 and L-2
- Flexible thoracic kyphosis
- Need for extension to promote spinal alignment and/or reduce pain
- Thoracic instability
- Fractures accompanied by low back pain
- Need for thoracic extension to correct flexed posture

Fitting Problems:

Q: My “little old lady” patients sometimes return to me with a washcloth or a piece of foam stuffed under the sternal pad. Sometimes, they are physically holding the sternal pad out away from their sternum. How can I make them more comfortable without shortening the brace so much that it won’t be effective?

A: To extend your problem one step further, that brace won’t be effective if you leave it full length either, because your patient won’t wear it! There is, however, a solution to your problem. You apparently have fit your patient with the ACE-ST (or the CASH® Orthosis). Hyperextension braces with sternal pads are designed for younger, stronger patients with normal musculature. Your “little old lady” patient simply cannot tolerate the pressures on her sternum generated by the ACE-ST (or by the CASH-300 or -400 braces). You should fit this patient with one of our pectoral ACE Brace models – either the ACE-PV or the ACE-PS. Their patented top design will totally solve your patient’s sternal pressure and/or neck impingement. But, all is not lost. You don’t have to fit a whole new brace on the patient. Simply retrofit your ACE-ST (or CASH® Brace) with the top section from one of our pectoral braces. You can find the part numbers in our “ACE Brace Illustrated Parts” guide in our catalog or on our web site.

Q: The brace is visible if she wears a blouse with the top button open. She may need a back brace, but she still has her vanity. How can I help her?

A: Again, the answer to your problem is to fit this patient with one of the pectoral models of the ACE Brace (ACE-PV or -PS). The patented V-top and separate anatomically shaped pectoral pads allow for her to wear a normal blouse, open necked, with no metal or plastic brace parts showing.

Q: My patient is asking for softer padding. Is it available?

A: Yes, it is. We offer additional, softer padding for both the sternal/pubis and pectoral pressure pads. This padding is made from a tri-laminate fabric/foam/fabric sandwich, and has elastic retainer pockets. Simply slip them over the pads which require more softness. You can find the part numbers in our “ACE Brace Illustrated Parts” guide in our catalog or on our web site. Many orthotists routinely order a full set of these over-pads with each brace.



ACE Brace™

Size:

Q: What size should I order?

A: The ACE Brace is a one-size-fits-all orthosis, which should fit about 97% of your hyperextension patients. The standard ACE Brace will fit sternal-notch-to-pubis measurements of 11" to 19", and lateral-to-lateral width measurements of 8" to 15". (For taller or larger patients, we offer longer vertical bars and wider horizontal bars.)

Q: How much height and width do the optional bars add to that size range?

A: The longer vertical bar adds 3" to the height and the wider horizontal bar adds 1" to the width. (These two bars may be used together, making the ACE Brace both taller and wider.)

Parts:

Q: Do you sell replacement parts for the ACE Brace?

A: Sure. Both replacement parts and accessories are available. Look them up in the "ACE Brace Illustrated Parts" guide in your catalog, or on the ACE Brace page of our website www.hopeortho.com.

Customer Service:

Q: How late can I order?

A: Next Day Air orders placed by 7:30PM EST (and sometimes later) will ship the same day. Most ground orders placed by 6:00 PM EST will ship the same day.

Q: Do you accept credit cards?

A: Yes. We accept MC, VISA, DISCOVER and AMEX.