

Solar OA™

Fitting Instructions



1. Determine appropriate application for the patient.
 - o Brace is applied opposite the compartment affected.
 - o Medial OA, brace is lateral; Lateral OA brace is medial.
2. Ensure the condyle pad is fully unloaded by turning the thumbwheel (*you want the brace sitting as close to the leg as possible before curing*).
3. With the patient's leg in the "gas pedal position," approximately 30 degrees of flexion.
4. Holding the brace alongside the leg, match the hinge uprights to the patient's anatomy - uprights should be bent or shaped to provide a tight fit to the patient the leg contour.
 - o Always bend uprights before curing.
 - o Call attention to bending notches in uprights, adjacent to the hinge center.
5. Apply Solar OA brace to patient's leg.
6. Uprights should be centered along the midline, anterior/posterior and the hinge center should be aligned with the top of the patella.
7. Fit strapping snug to patient comfort starting with the upper calf strap, moving down to the lower calf, up the leg.
8. Remove front alligator hook tab and trim for patient ease of application, allowing enough room for strap padding and future adjustments.
9. Re-apply alligator hook and loop and fit to patient comfort.
10. Note any gaps between stays and patient leg.

FITTING INSTRUCTIONS - SOLAR OA (cont)

11. Repeat process until brace sits flush on patient leg (do not cure until stays are molded to desired fit).
12. Ensure that there is padding between the patient's leg and the silicone cuffs before curing. During the curing process the cuffs will become warm to the touch (approx. 140-150 degrees F), the patient should be aware of this and notify of any discomfort to adjust the padding.
13. Check again to make sure the patient's leg in is the "gas pedal position" and adjust if needed.
14. Using the UV curing light, hold approximately 6-8" from the brace surface starting with the Silicone thigh cuff. (Slowly move the UV light over the surface to ensure full exposure of the cuff to the light source.
15. ***Precaution** - avoid handling Silicone cuffs throughout the 90 second cure process (there is a 120 sec cooldown phase)
16. Silicone will cure and harden to retain the mold after 30 seconds of exposure to UV light
17. Repeat process on calf cuff.
18. Remove brace and cure all portions of Silicone for 1-2 minutes on both thigh and calf cuffs, paying special attention to the edges of the brace and areas around the buckles.
19. If desired hardness is not attained, repeat curing process for additional 1-2 minutes until desired hardness is achieved.
20. Cuffs will turn clear once cured.
21. Included with the brace is 18" of strap padding with silicone grip. This can be cut to fit for each strap and applied to help minimize migration.
22. Apply fully cured Solar OA brace to patient and secure strapping to patient comfort
23. At this point have the patient stand and walk a short distance to check the overall fit of the brace - brace should settle with hinge now aligned with knee center (adjust as needed).
24. With the patient seated, turn the thumbwheel until the condyle pad is in full contact with the knee joint to apply a corrective force to the knee to facilitate unloading (the patient should feel a gentle pressure from the condyle pad).
25. Have the patient take a short walk (if they feel uncomfortable pressure, adjust the thumbwheel to reduce the force).
26. Once desired force is achieved, it may be helpful to mark the adjustment setting on the thumbwheel in case it is inadvertently changed.

NOTES: