

The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105

Frequently Asked Questions

PRODUCT

What are the maintenance requirements for The Vest® System?

Minimal routine maintenance and periodic cleaning are necessary for The Vest® Airway Clearance System. Refer to the The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105 User Manual for cleaning instructions. If maintenance or service is needed, contact Hill-Rom Customer Service at 800-426-4224.

Is The Vest® System Latex free?

The Vest® System, which includes the generator, hoses, garments, or accessories, is not made with natural rubber latex. Product specifications can be found in The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105 User Manual.

Can The Vest® System also be run on an inverter?

The Vest® System has not been validated to run on an inverter. The electrical requirements are outlined in The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105 User Manual.

How does the Chest & Wrap garments provide therapy to the lungs when it only inflates on one side?

Whether the garment inflates on one side or all sides, it is releasing and compressing the chest wall creating airflow within the lungs. Airflow is believed to be one of the mechanisms of action for mobilizing secretions.

Why are there different garment styles available?

The different garment styles for The Vest® System accommodate different patient body types and other conditions of disease states such as ports or physical abnormalities.

What garment styles are available?

The Vest® System has four styles of garments to offer for different body shapes and types. They all provide equivalent airflow with therapy. The four garment styles include a Full Garment, Wrap Garment, Chest Garment, and C3® Garment.

How does the patient ensure the garment will fit correctly?

It is important to provide an accurate chest measurement as a baseline to fit the garment. It is recommended that a single layer of cotton clothing be worn beneath the inflatable garment. Adjust the straps or tabs to ensure a comfortable fit. See the fitting instructions for each garment style in The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105 User Manual.

Is the C3® garment shaped differently than the Full vest garment?

The C3® garment will fit a little different than the classic Full vest garment. The underarms are cut lower and there are also layers within the garment which may feel bulkier when inflated.

Why can patients sometimes feel the port poking them on the side of the C3® garments?

The patient may feel the port inside the garment prior to the garment inflating. If the patient continues to feel the port after the garment inflates, they may benefit from a replacement garment.

What are the absolute contraindications for High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation (HFCWO)?

The two absolute contraindications are; 1) Head and/or neck injury that has not yet been stabilized and 2) Active hemorrhage with hemodynamic instability.

FUNCTIONALITY

What does each number and the acronyms mean on the display screen?

The three numbers on the screen represent the frequency, pressure, and time settings. The frequency is in hertz (HZ) and it is the speed of the compression pulses. The higher the number, the faster it compresses. The pressure is the amount of pressure applied to the thorax. The higher the number, the more pressure on the thorax. The time is the treatment time setting in minutes (MIN).

How long does the screen light stay on?

The screen light goes off after 10 minutes or when the device is unplugged.

Where does The Vest® System display the hour meter reading?

Once the power is connected to The Vest® System, the device will show a blank screen for up to 15 seconds. Then it will show the model number and hour meter reading. This screen will show for 10 seconds or until the ON button is pressed. With the device plugged in, press the ON button and then press the OFF button to display the hour meter reading.

How does The Vest® System shut off?

After 10 minutes of inactivity, the device will shut off automatically. Pressing the OFF button will stop therapy coming from the device, but the device will still have power going to it. To remove power from the device, unplug the power cord from the outlet or the back of the device.

Will the settings be lost if The Vest® System is unplugged?

If the device is unplugged, the settings will not be lost. The Vest® System is equipped with internal memory so it will default to the previous settings.

Will The Vest® System count the treatment time in the hour meter if the device is unplugged prior to the treatment being complete?

The Vest® System will only count the treatment session if 'Session Complete' shows in the display screen or if the patient presses the OFF button twice during treatment. If the device is unplugged before either of these two options, the session will not be recorded in the hour meter.

Can The Vest® System be programmed in different languages?

The Vest® System can be programmed in 9 different languages. It is pre-programmed with two standard languages, English and Spanish. The other optional languages can be requested at the time of order include; French, Dutch, German, Italian, Swedish, Romanian, Portuguese, and International Portuguese. See The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105 User Manual for instructions on changing the language setting.

Why does The Vest® System start up after the last program point is done?

This can happen when using the CoughPause® Feature. The CoughPause timer is a different timer than the total therapy timer. As the device ramps up from one setting to another, the therapy timer doesn't start until the set point is reached where the CoughPause timer starts immediately. By the end of the treatment, the timers can be off by a few seconds causing the generator to start back up again to finish any remaining therapy time.

NOTE: If the device doesn't reach the 'Session Complete' screen, the unit will not register any of the hours used that particular therapy session in the Hour Meter Reading.

Why do the locking air hoses have air leaking where it is inserted into the machine?

There may be a small amount of air leaking from around the locking tube connection point. These air leaks are normal and do not impact system performance or therapy provided.

TREATMENT

How soon can the patient expect to see results from using The Vest® System?

The Vest® System provides airway clearance or improves bronchial drainage. The patient's health care team will provide them with expected outcomes and next steps if the outcomes are not met.

Does the patient need to use The Vest® System all the time, or only when they feel sick?

The patient should consult their health care team to determine a protocol that suits the patient's individual needs.

What should the patient do if they skip their treatment?

The patient should consult their health care team to determine next steps.

What can a patient do to keep their throat from feeling dry when using The Vest® System?

The patient can drink during pauses in their treatment. It is not recommended to drink while the device is oscillating. The patient can use a nebulizer during treatment if prescribed by their health care team.

Can a patient take prescribed aerosol or nebulizer treatments while using The Vest® System?

There is no contraindication for conducting both treatments at the same time. The patient should consult their health care team to determine next steps.

Can the patient wear a shirt under the garment during their treatment?

A single layer of cotton clothing beneath the inflatable garment is recommended. The patient can also use a contour foam to provide additional padding.

Can the patient change their prescribed settings?

The patient should consult their health care team to determine if the prescribed settings should be changed.

What should the patient do if their stomach gets upset during treatment?

The patient should consult their health care team to discuss possible remedies for the upset stomach. Possible recommendations by the health care team may be to conduct the treatment before meals, relieving pressure in the stomach area by leaning forward or backward, or changing garment style.

What happens if The Vest® System causes the patient to feel itchy?

Itching may occur initially while acclimating to the therapy. If itchy skin occurs, the patient can wear a cotton t-shirt, use lotion on skin before treatment or try a different garment style. An itchy nose may occur from airflow being generated from therapy. If the itchiness continues, the patient should consult their health care team.

What are the most commonly used treatment settings?

Treatments are most commonly done twice a day:

- Most commonly used treatment time is 10-20 mins.
- Most commonly used frequency is between 10-14 Hz.
- Most commonly used pressure is Full Vest garment 4-6 and Wrap Vest / Chest Vest garments 1-4.

SUPPORT

Will the insurance company cover the costs of The Vest® System?

The patient will need to contact their insurance company to determine their coverage and if there will be any patient responsibility. Recommended questions to ask the insurance company include; What are the benefits for Durable Medical Equipment? What is the reimbursement for the procedure code E0483?

Hill-Rom also provides a Patient Financial Assistance Program. Please contact your Hill-Rom Account Executive or call 800-426-4224 for more information.

Who can service The Vest® System?

Only authorized personnel should service The Vest® System. Please see The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105 User Manual for troubleshooting or contact Customer Service at 800-426-4224.

How is the hour meter reading information used?

The hour meter readings shows the usage of The Vest® System. The information is used to measure compliance to the prescribed therapy. The information may be shared with the insurance company or health care team.

How are the results of the outcomes survey used?

The survey results may be shared with the patient's health care team.

What is the Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN) form?

The ABN form is a patient signed acknowledgment document. The patient is acknowledging they are receiving The Vest® System without knowing if the insurance company will cover the cost of The Vest® System or if the patient will be responsible for the cost of The Vest® System. The ABN form is signed prior to the device being shipped to the patient and a copy should be given to the patient.

If the patient can't find their copy of the ABN form, Hill-Rom can send the patient a copy of the signed form.

Hill-Rom reserves the right to make changes without notice in design, specifications and models. The only warranty Hill-Rom makes is the express written warranty extended on the sale or rental of its products.

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For further information about this product or a service, please contact your local Hill-Rom representative or visit our webpage:

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