**NEW PRODUCTS**

**ETOIMS DEVICE STIMULATES TRIGGER POINTS TO RELIEVE PAIN**

Ardmore, PA-based eToims Medical Technology, LLC is marketing a surface electrical stimulation device that targets deep muscles to relieve myofascial pain and discomfort. The patented portable ET127 Evoked Response Stimulator excites deep trigger points to elicit muscle twitches. According to the company, these abrupt, brisk, and vigorous twitches relieve pain by ending muscle spasms and promoting healing of irritable trigger points.

Twitches produced by eToims (electrical twitch obtaining intramuscular stimulation) stretch muscle fibers in spasm, resulting in compression of intramuscular blood vessels and nerve fibers and reducing traction on pain-sensitive structures, such as periosteum and joint capsules to which muscles attach, says Jennifer Chu, MD, founder of eToims Medical Technology. She explains that consequently, twitch-induced exercise also promotes local blood flow, improving tissue oxygenation, promoting healing, and removing local accumulation of pain-producing neurochemicals.

In normal situations, trigger points stimulated to twitch produce movements that effect joint rocking and shaking. In acute situations, hyperexcitability of trigger points produces forceful twitches sufficient to lift the joint on which the stimulated muscle acts, causing these twitches to dissipate abruptly. In chronic situations, trigger points are very difficult to find, and twitch forces are feebie, says Chu.

According to Chu, acute and subacute myofascial problems resolve well with eToims as a standalone treatment. However, chronic problems tend to have guarded prognosis due to the presence of partial nerve and muscle fibrosis, requiring long-term eToims as an adjunctive treatment for improvement of quality of life. Chu has found that twitches, key to relief of myofascial pain or discomfort, are simultaneously diagnostic, therapeutic, and prognostic.

In the presence of very tight muscles, whereas routine exercise produces simultaneous active contractions of many muscles that can increase ischemic pain, eToims-induced twitches can enable active, painless exercise of 1 muscle at a time to remove or reduce pain.

Chu notes that a top football franchise in the UK now uses eToims for prehabilitation to prevent injuries as well as to rapidly rehabilitate soft tissue injuries to reduce elite-player downtime. ET127 is now available for sale to clinicians in Europe, Canada, Taiwan, and Hong Kong, as well as for home use as a personal device. Leasing options are available. eToims videos can be seen at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMaTcv92Mo.

*For more information, visit www.etoims.com.*

**POLYGEL ANNOUNCES KNEE, ANKLE SUPPORT PRODUCTS**

PolyGel Inc has expanded its ThermoActive line to include the ThermoActive Medical Large Knee Orthosis with ROM Hinges and the ThermoActive Large Size Knee Support. According to the company, headquartered in Whippany, NJ, these options enable orthopaedic surgeons and physical therapists to prescribe a wider range of ThermoActive devices, providing their large and obese patients with the advantage of hot or cold compression therapy within an orthopaedically sound structural support for controlled relief.

The ThermoActive Medical Large ROM Knee System is a reimbursable treatment option intended for sprains, strains, and postoperative recovery. The range-of-motion hinges can be adjusted by changing the settings on integrated pins. Both flexion and extension can be controlled in 15° increments from 0° to 90°, or the system can allow full range of motion. PolyGel further maintains that the ThermoActive Medical Large Knee Orthosis allows better control of excessive medial/lateral movements as well as edema. This device is billable under Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System code L1832.

The ThermoActive Large Knee Support fits circumferences of up to 26 inches above the kneecap and 25 inches below the kneecap. With optional extension straps, the Large Knee Support can accommodate circumferences of 36 inches above the kneecap and 35 inches below the kneecap. By offering circumferential compression and support, the Large Knee Support provides deep tissue treatment and greater mobility during treatment, the company says. The support is lightweight for portability and ease of use and is latex free.

Components attach to each support with a hook-and-loop system, allowing the healthcare professional to place the hinge, splint, or panel at the location and angle required by individual patient anatomy.

PolyGel also recently announced the addition of the Large Ankle Support to its ThermoActive line of cold/hot compression therapy products. The Large Ankle Support fits circumferences above the foot of up to 30 inches, again allowing treatment for a broader patient population. As with all ThermoActive products, the gel packs remain flexible and the system is washable and reusable.

*For more information, visit www.polygel.com.*

**WELLBE DEBUTS ANTERIOR CRUCIATE LIGAMENT PATIENT GUIDANCE SYSTEM**

Wellbe Inc of Madison, WI has introduced the Patient Guidance System for anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction surgery.
The company designed the system in conjunction with surgeons, care coordinators, and physical therapists to provide patients with online education, family involvement, checklists, and reminders. The system is aligned with other points of care—including preadmissions testing and rehabilitation—with the goal of creating a single, streamlined experience.

“We designed the Patient Guidance System from the ground up for orthopedic and sports medicine departments to help set patient expectations, align their programs to standards of care and reduce variances,” says James Dias, CEO and founder of Wellbe.me.

The Patient Guidance System can help standardize the coordination of care from the point of decision to 1 year postsurgery or longer. By enabling an online patient-provider partnership that goes beyond facility walls, health systems can see gains in efficiency and engagement across the entire continuum of care, Dias explains.

The program, currently in use at a Wisconsin academic medical center, is accessed via the web on desktop, laptop, or tablet computers, such as iPads. Hospitals or surgery centers can enroll patients when they are scheduled for surgery, and the program covers the entire patient care journey, providing timely instructions, education (including videos), preparation checklists, decision support tools, and feedback surveys. Enrolled patients find the simple program helps them move through surgery and recovery with greater confidence.

For more information, visit www.wellbe.me.

FOOTMAXX OFFERS MAXXLIFE ORTHOTIC

Footmaxx of Roanoke, VA has introduced the MaxxLife premium custom-made orthotic. The MaxxLife features a natural leather top cover, a Duramaxx module, a polyurethane midlayer reinforced with a suede bottom, and a polyurethane heel cushion and cap to provide longer-lasting comfort and stability.

Footmaxx offers a 1-year guarantee on the MaxxLife custom-made orthotic, which covers delamination, tearing, or abnormal breaking of the leather top cover; delamination of the bottom reinforcement; and normal wear and tear on the components.

In addition to the leather top cover, the MaxxLife also features a cushioned midlayer for increased shock absorption and an added heel cushion for heel-strike comfort. The standard Duramaxx module is low profile and offers improved motion control. The MaxxLife can be ordered with a nonstandard heel cup and is also available in all 3 lengths Footmaxx offers (full, sulcus, and metatarsal).

For more information, visit www.footmaxx.com.

NOTEWORTHY

• Soft Tissue Regeneration, Inc of New Haven, CT, an early-stage orthopaedic device company, has been issued a patent for the L-C Ligament, a device for soft tissue regeneration of the anterior cruciate ligament of the knee. Invented by Cato T. Laurencin, MD, PhD, the L-C Ligament is a bioresorbable scaffold that is designed to regenerate knee ligament tissue after anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction surgery. The patented technology uses a degradable polymer called poly(L) lactide acid to address known risks and morbidity associated with allograft and autograft tissues. The technology requires no harvesting of the patient’s tendon, which eliminates the risks associated with the harvest site. Soft Tissue Regeneration recently announced the enrollment of its first patient in a clinical trial of the company’s L-C Ligament. The L-C Ligament encourages the regeneration of the patient’s own ligament tissue. To date, results from large-scale animal testing at 1 year and longer have demonstrated that the L-C Ligament can regenerate a native ligament intra-articularly. The L-C Ligament is an investigational device and is not available for use or sale in the European Union or in the United States. It is only available as part of the clinical trial. For more information, visit www.softtissueregeneration.com.

• Small Bone Innovations, Inc has launched a new website designed to provide patients and healthcare providers with access to detailed information about nonsurgical and surgical treatment options for Charcot foot. The website includes a surgeon locator and a database of information about nonsurgical and surgical treatment options for Charcot foot. The website includes a surgeon locator and a database of information about nonsurgical and surgical treatment options for Charcot foot. Soft Tissue Regeneration recently announced the enrollment of its first patient in a clinical trial of the company’s L-C Ligament. The L-C Ligament encourages the regeneration of the patient’s own ligament tissue. To date, results from large-scale animal testing at 1 year and longer have demonstrated that the L-C Ligament can regenerate a native ligament intra-articularly. The L-C Ligament is an investigational device and is not available for use or sale in the European Union or in the United States. It is only available as part of the clinical trial. For more information, visit www.charcotsolution.com.

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