

CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL

Physical Therapy Services

PT Equipment Procedure #40

Re: Fluidotherapy

Date: October 19, 2008

Description: The fluidotherapy machine is a dry heat modality that uses a dry heat medium to move small warmed particles around the extremity being treated. This provides contact without the weight inherent in other heat modalities.

Indications:

1. Relief of local pain
2. Treatment of local blood flow insufficiency
3. Treatment of decreased range of motion when combined with exercise
4. Treatment for symptoms of non-rheumatoid arthritis
5. Treatment of increased sensitivity to light touch

Contraindications:

1. This device should not be used for symptomatic pain relief unless etiology is established or unless a pain syndrome has been diagnosed.
2. This device should not be used when cancerous lesions or open wounds are present in the treatment area.
3. Patients with serious infectious diseases.
4. Patients sensitive to heat.

Precautions:

1. Patients that may experience allergic reactions to dust and pollen.
2. Use only fingers to touch the control panel.

Procedures:

1. Plug in machine. Heat up machine prior to use by pressing the preheat setting.
2. After treatment temperature is met, set time by pressing until the indicator light is beside "Treatment Time". The default time is 20 minutes. This can be increased or decreased from 1 to 99 minutes.

3. Press button until the indicator light is beside “Temperature”. The default setting is 115 degrees F (46.1 degrees C). This can be increased or decreased from 88 degrees F to 130 degrees F.
4. Press button until the indicator light is beside “Air Speed”. The default setting is 50. This can be increased or decreased in increments of 5 from 0 to 100.
5. Press button until the indicator light is beside “Pulse Time”. This allows the unit to operate by pulsing the medium during treatment at equal increments. The default setting is off. The pulse time can be set from one to six seconds.
6. Insert the patient’s arm or leg into the top or side opening and secure around arm or leg. Press the start button to begin treatment.
7. The patient should be encouraged to slowly the fingers or toes of the extremity being treated.
8. The machine will shut off automatically when the treatment time is met or the “Stop” button is pressed.

Maintenance:

1. Daily – clean inlet filters. Refill with heat medium. Inspect sleeve for tears, rips and weak seams.
2. Weekly – Remove the top sleeves. Remove the end sleeve. Install new sleeves if necessary. Check all other parts for wear and replace if necessary.
3. Annually – The Fluidotherapy Machine receives Biomedical Testing annually in January of each year.