The Vest® Airway Clearance System Training Booklet
Getting Started

How will I know how to use The Vest® System?
A training video is included with the device. In addition, a trainer will come to your home or be available by phone to provide training on The Vest® System.

The trainer will:
- Outline steps recommended for using The Vest® System
- Emphasize the role of airway clearance in bronchial hygiene
- Answer any questions and discuss any concerns

To prepare for your appointment, it is a good idea to unpack The Vest® System and watch the training video.

If you are able, you might want to try on your garment to verify the fit. A quick fitting guide is in this booklet; review the user manual for additional information on fitting.

The Vest® Airway Clearance System shipment should include the following:
- Rolling Bag
- Air Pulse Generator
- Power Cord
- Two Locking Air Hoses
- Remote Control
- Instructional DVD
- Protocol Sticker
- User Manual
- Welcome Folder
- Product Introduction Kit
- Garment

If you are missing any of these items, please call Hillrom Customer Service at 1-800-426-4224.

Why do I need Airway Clearance Therapy?
When a medical condition impairs the body’s ability to perform airway clearance on its own, Airway Clearance Therapy is needed.

Airway Clearance is extremely important because mucus that accumulates in the lungs may lead to serious complications, which can damage healthy lung tissue and make breathing more difficult.

What is The Vest® Airway Clearance System?
The Vest® System is an easy-to-use medical device for children and adults who have excess airway mucus and difficulty clearing it effectively. Designed for in-home use, The Vest® System is quiet, comfortable and portable; its features promote user independence and helps simplify treatment routines.
How does The Vest® System work?
The device uses a technology called High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation (HFCWO). Equipment consists of a garment connected by Air Hoses to an Air Pulse Generator. During therapy, the garment inflates and deflates rapidly, applying gentle pressure to the chest wall. This moves mucus toward larger airways where it can be cleared by coughing or suctioning.

What are some advantages of having therapy with The Vest® System?

**EFFICIENCY:** All lobes of the lung are treated simultaneously.

**EASE OF USE:** Many users require no assistance; special positioning and complicated breathing techniques are not required.

Are there any special safety instructions for The Vest® System?
Before use, make sure to review the complete list of important safeguards that are in the user manual.

- Do not plug in or use the Air Pulse Generator if it is wet or damp.
- Keep the unit and its Power Cord away from heated surfaces.
- Place the Air Pulse Generator only on a stable and level surface.
- Use The Vest® System only with a properly grounded electrical outlet.
- Always unplug this product immediately after using.
- If this product has a damaged Power Cord or plug, is not working properly, or has been dropped or damaged, do not operate it. For examination or repair, contact Hillrom Customer Service at 1-800-426-4224.

Are there any additional safety tips regarding my therapy?
- Close supervision throughout the treatment is necessary when this product is used by children or patients with physical limitations or impaired cognitive abilities.
- Do not eat or drink during a therapy session. To do so could cause a choking hazard.
- Try to do your treatment with The Vest® Airway Clearance System before a meal or at least 30 minutes after a meal to avoid the feeling of an upset stomach.
- Adult supervision is required to use the therapy on children.
Contraindications

**WARNING:** If the patient conditions exist that cause the use of The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105 to present a risk to the patient, do not use the unit except as directed by a physician. Death or serious injury could occur.

The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105 is contraindicated if these conditions are present:

- Head and/or neck injury that has not yet been stabilized
- Active hemorrhage with hemodynamic instability

Relative Contraindications

According to the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) Guidelines for Postural Drainage Therapy, the decision to use the unit for Airway Clearance Therapy requires careful consideration and assessment of the individual patient’s case if the following conditions exist:

- Intracranial pressure (ICP) greater than 20 mm Hg
- Recent spinal surgery or acute spinal injury
- Bronchopleural fistula
- Pulmonary edema associated with congestive heart failure
- Large pleural effusions or empyema
- Pulmonary embolism
- Rib fractures, with or without flail chest
- Surgical wound or healing tissue or recent skin grafts or flaps on the thorax
- Uncontrolled hypertension
- Distended abdomen
- Recent esophageal surgery
- Active or recent gross hemoptysis
- Uncontrolled airway at risk for aspiration such as tube feeding or a recent meal
- Subcutaneous emphysema
- Recent epidural spinal infusion or spinal anesthesia
- Burns, open wounds, and skin infections on the thorax
- Recent placement of transvenous or subcutaneous pacemaker
- Suspected pulmonary tuberculosis
- Lung contusion
- Bronchospasm
- Osteoporosis or osteomyelitis of the ribs
- Coagulopathy
- Complaint of chest wall pain
How To Fit Your Inflatable Garment

NOTE: IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT A SINGLE LAYER OF COTTON CLOTHING BE WORN BENEATH THE GARMENT.

The Full Vest: C3® Washable Garment

The C3® garment will arrive to you in two pieces and ready to be assembled as follows:

1. Lay outer garment flat.
2. Unzip zipper at bottom of outer garment.
3. Insert inflatable bladder.
4. Insert air duct pipes through outer garment.
5. Press studs to secure bladder.
6. Zip up outer garment.
7. Put the garment on so the closures are in front; connect the closures so the garment fits loosely over the chest. You should be able to fit a fist between the garment and body before inflating the garment. Adjust using the buckles.
8. The garment should fit comfortably and the arm opening should be just underneath your arms. Adjust at the shoulder straps as needed.

NOTE: For full fitting instructions, refer to The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105, User Manual (145330).
The Full Vest: C3® Washable Garment X-Small Size

The C3® garment will arrive to you in two pieces and ready to be assembled as follows:

1. Lay the outer garment flat.
2. Open the flap on the bottom of the outer garment.
3. Put the inflatable bladder into the outer garment.
4. Put the air duct pipes through the outer garment.
5. Put the garment on so the air hose connector ports are in the front.
6. Connect the closures so the garment fits loosely over the chest.

NOTE: You should be able to fit a flat hand between the garment and the body before you inflate the garment.

7. Adjust the shoulder straps so the arm opening is just beneath the underarms.
8. Adjust the garment to fit close to the body without being uncomfortably snug:
   - To tighten the fit at the bottom edge, angle the front panel tabs upward.
   - To loosen the fit at the bottom edge, angle the front panel tabs downward.

NOTE: For full fitting instructions, refer to The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105, User Manual (145330).

The Classic Wrap Vest

1. Wrap the garment around your body so that the upper edge of the garment is under the arm pits and centered around the nipple line.
2. The Air Hose Ports can be placed anywhere around the chest that is comfortable.
3. Take a deep breath, and fasten the Wrap Vest making sure that the garment fits close to the underarms, but not uncomfortable so that a flat hand can fit between the garment and body. Connect Air Hoses to the garment Air Hose Ports.

Get Comfortable. No Positioning Required.

Can be used in a sitting position, lying down and even standing.

NOTE: For full fitting instructions, refer to The Vest® Airway Clearance System, Model 105, User Manual (145330).
Setting up The Vest® System

1. Place the Air Pulse Generator in a stable convenient location.
2. Plug the power Cord in the back of the Air Pulse Generator.
3. Plug the Air Pulse Generator into a grounded outlet.

Locking Hose

4. Connect the Air Hose to the Air Hose Connector Port on the front of the Air Pulse Generator.
5. Slightly twist the Air Hose into the Air Hose Connector Port to help secure the Air Hose in position.
6. Align the mark on the Air Hose with the corresponding mark on the Air Hose Connector Port on the front of the Air Pulse Generator.
7. Turn the Air Hose to the locked position.
8. Plug the optional Remote Control into the port on the front of the Air Pulse Generator.

Check Hour Meter Reading

Your Hour Meter Reading will come up when you first plug in your device or you can press the ON button and then the OFF button and the Hour Meter Reading will appear on the screen.
My Prescription From My Doctor

To Begin Your Treatment:

1. With device plugged in, press the Up arrow above NORMAL.

2. The first number you will see in the upper left hand corner is the Frequency or Hertz (Hz). Adjust as needed to match your prescription above by using the Up or Down arrows.

3. The middle number on the screen is the pressure. This should be set based on your garment style. It can also be adjusted by pressing the Up or Down arrows.
   
   **NOTE:** Pressures between 5 and 6 are commonly used for the C3® Washable Garment. Pressures between 1 and 4 are commonly used for the Wrap Vest.

4. The last number on top is the time of your treatment. Adjust as needed to match your prescription above by using the Up and Down arrows.

5. These settings will be saved as entered for your next treatment.

6. At this point you are ready to begin. Follow prompts on screen.

7. Press ON to Inflate.

8. Start Therapy Press ON.

9. To pause, press the OFF button or squeeze the Remote Control once. The unit will stop the pulsations and the garment will deflate. To resume treatment, press the ON button or squeeze the Remote Control again.

10. If it is necessary to end the treatment session before it is complete, press the OFF button twice.

11. When the treatment session is complete, the pulsations will stop, the garment will deflate, and it will read “Session Complete”.

12. Unplug the system from its power source.

**NOTE:** IF YOUR DOCTOR HAS ORDERED A CUSTOM PROGRAM, REFER TO YOUR CLINICAL TRAINER OR THE USER MANUAL FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
How will I know if The Vest® System is helping?
Although each person is different, by using The Vest® System regularly you will get airway clearance which may lead to:

- Easier breathing
- Improved lung function

Will someone be following up on my progress?
As a service, we will periodically call to:

- Discuss how The Vest® System is working for you
- Answer your questions about The Vest® System
- Request the total number of hours you have used The Vest® System; which is automatically recorded by the system

NOTE: The hour meter reading can be accessed by pressing OFF when in the NORMAL/CUSTOM screen or when you first plug in the device. It is located in the upper right hand corner of the screen.

Insurance providers may use this data. This information may also be beneficial to your physician in assessing treatment plans and progress.

ALL INFORMATION IS TREATED CONFIDENTIALLY AND IS SHARED WITH YOUR PHYSICIAN AND INSURANCE PROVIDER AS THEY REQUIRE OR AS OTHERWISE APPROPRIATE.
How do I care for my device and garment?

The Vest® Airway Clearance System requires minimal routine maintenance.

Periodic cleaning is required. We recommend that you wipe clean the Air Pulse Generator, Air Hoses and the wrap vest with a mild detergent and warm water. Do not put The Vest® Airway Clearance System in water or any solution.

Cleaning the C3® Garment Line

Only the outer piece of the C3® Garment Line can be machine washed. The bladder is cleaned in the same manner as the wrap vest noted above. Remove the bladder assembly as follows:

1. Open up the buckles and lay the garment flat on a table.
2. Open the zipper at the bottom of the garment.
3. Unfasten the snaps that secure the bladder to the outer garment.
4. Remove the two hose connections from the outer garment.
5. Remove the bladder from the outer garment.

Machine wash the outer piece only as follows:

1. Fasten all buckles, zippers and shoulder strap connections.
   NOTE: The child extra small size garment does not have buckles or zippers.
2. Machine wash, or hand wash, in cold cycle only (86° F (30° C) maximum). Non-chlorine bleach may be used as necessary.
3. Hang dry or tumble dry on lowest temperature (120°F (49° C) maximum).
4. Cool iron (250° F (110° C) maximum) as necessary.

NOTES:
- **DO NOT MACHINE WASH OR DRY THE BLADDER.**
- **ONLY IRON THE FABRIC OF THE GARMENT. DO NOT IRON ANY PARTS THAT ARE NOT FABRIC MATERIAL AROUND THE HOSE PORT HOLES, BUCKLES, ZIPPERS OR SHOULDER STRAP CONNECTIONS.**
Can I travel with my device?

When traveling with your device, The Vest® System, we recommend that you review the TSA website at:

http://www.tsa.gov

In addition, you may consider carrying a letter from your physician on their letterhead that states: your medical condition, your medical need for the device, and that the device is necessary for your well being. Please note that according to the TSA website this documentation is not required and will not exempt you from the security screening process.

If you have any further questions you should contact your travel agent or airline.

Limited Lifetime Warranty*

The limited lifetime warranty covers:

- Parts and accessories
- Labor cost
- Inflatable garment replacements

*See Limited Lifetime Warranty for complete details including restrictions

MY MODEL #  MY SERIAL #

NOTES:

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For further information refer to your user manual.

For more information on The Vest® Airway Clearance System, contact Hillrom Customer Service at 1-800-426-4224 or www.respiratorycare.hill-rom.com.