

1. What is a Total Contact Cast?

A Total Contact Cast (TCC) is a casting system used to off-load foot wounds by minimizing pressure and friction at the wound site. A TCC is in "total contact" with the foot and lower leg to redistribute weight away from the wound. A TCC is also used in the initial treatment of the Charcot foot to control the movement of the foot and support its contours.

2. Why use TCC-EZ[®]?

The TCC is considered the **GOLD Standard** for off-loading. The medical literature on TCC healing rates and times varies, but some studies have shown that up to **90%** of patients with diabetic foot wounds off-loaded in a TCC heal in about six weeks.^{1,2}

TCC-EZ[®] will enable the patient to maintain daily activities by allowing them to walk and continue their normal routine while being treated for their foot wound.

3. What will treatments be like?

The first cast change will take place 2-3 days after the first cast is applied. Afterwards, cast changes will take place from 1 to 2 times per week up to every other week as determined by your doctor. You will need to wear a cast for 1 to 2 additional weeks after your wound has healed to ensure your skin has returned to normal thickness.

4. Is patient compliance an issue when using TCC-EZ[®]?

The material used for the outer cast is a patented fiberglass resin that dries quickly to a light weight semi-rigid supportive shell that requires a cast saw for removal. A patient cannot remove the cast unless he has a cast saw. Even when going to the bathroom in the middle of the night the patient still has the benefit of being in the cast.

5. Can TCC-EZ[®] fit any shape of foot or leg?

TCC-EZ[®] incorporates a simple roll-on technique that provides a custom fit for each patient according to their individual anatomical shape.

6. Can TCC-EZ[®] be used for Charcot Foot?

TCC-EZ[®] offers Large and Extra Large Charcot Boots with innovative cushion insert (3 layers of foam) specially designed to accommodate patients who have developed rocker bottom deformities.

7. Can TCC-EZ[®] be used for larger and oversized bariatric patients?

TCC-EZ[®] is available in large sizes (including Large and Extra Large Boots) to accommodate patients weighing up to 181 kgs. (400 lbs.). Patients weighing in excess of 125 kgs. (275 lbs.) should be assessed for activity level and fit.

8. Who applies TCC-EZ[®]?

TCC-EZ[®] is an off-loading system and is not an orthopedic cast. It does not require an orthopedic cast technician or a casting setting. TCC-EZ[®] can be applied by a clinician who has been trained in the roll-on technique, which requires minimal training time³, thus making its use practical in clinical settings.

9. How do I educate my staff on the available TCC-EZ[®] products and the importance of off-loading?

Derma Sciences provides extensive in-servicing education to customers through on-site seminars and training programs. We also offer a TCC Certification program to help you ensure your customers have the best clinical experience with our casting systems. Online meetings and webinars with our staff of clinicians and field-based expert representatives support the clinicians on an ongoing approach. Educational materials can also be found on our website at canada.dermasciences.com/tcc-ez and/or www.healyourulcer.com. Please contact your representative to arrange for an in-servicing meeting to take place within your facility.

10. How much time is required in applying TCC-EZ[®]?

Studies demonstrate that with the TCC-EZ[®] system the application process can be completed in **under 10 minutes**. During a routine cast change procedure, the patient can leave the office within 20 – 25 minutes. This is about ¼ the amount of time of traditional systems.³

11. What is the typical inventory of casting kits that I should expect to dispense per month?

Maintaining an inventory of at least 1 case (10 casting systems) of each TCC-EZ[®] size, 3in (7.6cm) and 4in (10cm), and a range of three boot sizes - Regular, Large and Extra Large - will enable a practice to accommodate treatment needs as they arise.

12. Who pays for TCC-EZ[®]?

Some Health Authorities in Canada pay for TCC-EZ[®]. TCC-EZ[®] can be paid for under third party reimbursement programs that cover the application of off-loading devices, with a physician's written order.



1. Armstrong DG, et al. Off-loading the diabetic foot wound. Diabetes Care 24:1019-1022, 2001 2. Bloomgarden ZT: American Diabetes Association 60th Scientific Sessions, 2000. Diabetes Care 24:946-951, 2001. 3. Jensen J, Jaakola E, Gillin B, et al: TCC-EZ –Total Contact Casting System Overcoming the Barriers to Utilizing a Proven Gold Standard Treatment. DF Con. 2008.