

USER INSTRUCTIONS

TALUAIR®

ANKLE ORTHOSIS

FOR STABILISATION IN ONE PLANE



albrecht®
FUNKTIONELLE REHABILITATION

1. Introduction

1.1. Foreword

Functional ankle U-braces have proven to be effective in the rehabilitation of injuries and degenerative diseases of the ankle joint.

On the basis of his diagnosis, the physician will decide whether surgical or conservative treatment should be initiated. Regardless of this decision experience has shown that functional rehabilitation is superior to immobilization.

The U-brace provides medial and lateral support to the ankle joint (on both sides) while allowing a great degree of flexion and extension. This allows for a normal range of motion.

The air chambers cushion the supports to prevent unpleasant pressure. Thicker padding at both ankles provides higher pressure at the bottom third of the supporting area. With the pressure applied decreasing from the bottom towards the top, swellings can be reduced more rapidly.

The air chambers consist of a skin-friendly polyurethane sheeting and a PU foam filling.

These materials have proven their worth in the clinical environment. The entire product is PVC-free and free of plasticizers. It is nevertheless recommended that an absorbent sock be worn underneath the brace.

1.2. Customer information

For your own safety please read through these User Instructions carefully and accurately before using the brace. The instructions, notes and procedures must be read and understood

thoroughly in order to benefit from the correct operation and use of the device. If anything in the User Instructions is not clear, or any instructions, operating procedures or safety information is not fully understandable, please contact the appropriate specialist retailer or albrecht GmbH directly, before you use the brace. This particularly applies to the safety instructions.

1.3. Mode of operation

The taluir® provides medial and lateral support to the ankle joint while allowing a great degree of flexion and extension. This allows for a normal motion sequence. The air chambers cushion the supports to prevent unpleasant pressure. Stronger padding at both ankles provides higher pressure at the bottom third of the supporting area. The applied pressure decreases from the bottom towards the top, helping to reduce swelling more rapidly.

1.4. Application

The anatomically shaped taluir® air chamber U-brace has been designed as an effective medical product for temporary human use in functional rehabilitation. In order to ensure an individual fit the brace is available in two sizes for both the right and the left ankle.

1.5. Scope of delivery

The taluir® is supplied to you ready for use with the appropriate product labeling, in the ordered size together with user instructions and packed in a protective carton. The taluir® consists of a U-brace with air chambers, 2 Velcro straps and a heel strap. Please check the contents to ensure all components are included.

User Instructions

1.6. Declaration of conformity

The albrecht GmbH company as manufacturer with sole responsibility declares the conformity of the taluair[®] with European Council Directive 93/42/EEC for medical devices.

1.7. Features

- Anatomically shaped shells
- Air chambers made out of skin-friendly polyurethane sheeting
- PVC-free and free of plasticizers
- Air chambers inner core made out of PU foam filling
- Available in white and black

Optional pronation strap available.

1.8. Indications

The physician will decide on the type of treatment to apply based on his diagnosis. Generally the use of the taluair[®] is indicated:

In all indications requiring stabilisation of the ankle with limitation of Pro- and/or Subinversion such as:

- Post-surgical protection after ligament repair/reconstruction
- Conservative therapy of ankle joint distortions of all degrees of severity
- Functional therapy of ligament ruptures
- Ankle joint fractures (Weber A)
- Ligament instabilities
- Ligament injuries of the ankle joint

- Severe ankle joint distortion with loosened ligament
- Conservative or functional follow-up treatment of ankle joint fractures and ligament ruptures

For all other indications a physician must be consulted.

1.9. Contra indications

The brace is only intended for use in contact with intact skin.

1.10. Safety Instructions

The optimal effect of the brace is only achieved when used correctly.

- The brace must only be used in the intact, complete and mechanically undamaged condition and with complete and intact cushioning and waders. This must be verified by the user before each usage.
- Opening or removing one or more belts, as well as excessive loosening of the wader when using the brace leads to a reduction of the therapeutic effect of the brace and may lead to injury.
- The brace must not be worn over open wounds.
- The skin should be free of oils, grease, gels or other debris, to prevent reactions with the skin or the structure of the material.
- The orthosis should fit firmly but not too tight, so as not to restrict the blood circulation and adversely affect nerve and lymph vessels. Excessive compression is therefore to be avoided.

User Instructions

- Combination with other products is currently not provided for or is to be agreed with the manufacturer in writing.
- The brace is not intended for single use, but is intended for multiple use by a single person.
- The product as delivered is not sterile.
- Contact your physician immediately in the event of an allergic reaction.
- Please note that cushioned sections can heat up under direct sunlight. Protect the orthosis from direct sunlight if necessary.
- Currently there is no test for flammability. Exercise caution when using the orthosis in the direct vicinity of open flames such as lighters and cigarettes.

1.11. Warranty

We assume the warranty for the brace for a period of 3 months. The brace is a medical rehabilitation device and must not be used for any purpose other than the intended, as described in the Instructions for Use. Changes to the brace or other applications require the written consent of the albrecht GmbH. If this is not obtained, the manufacturer may not honor the guarantee. If you are using single joints or other components, these should be used as intended. If changes or modifications (e.g. additional mounting holes) are made to the individual parts or components, the manufacturer's warranty no longer applies. The removal of or damage to the QM seal will also void the warranty.

1.12. Transfer of the brace

The brace is not intended for single use, but rather is intended for multiple use by a single person. We do not recommend transfer to other users. Should this be desired however, please ensure to pass on the care and cleaning instructions and have the brace checked by an authorized specialist dealer for safe and proper operation.

1.13. Disposal

The talunair® contains recyclable materials and is free from toxic or otherwise polluting agents or substances. Provided that it is not contaminated with infectious germs, it can be disposed of by normal means. In order to be certain, please consult your orthopaedics store.

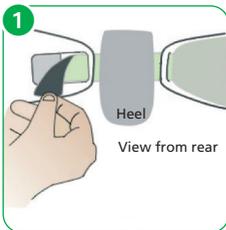
User Instructions

2. Individual adjustments

We recommend wearing absorbent socks. These improve the climatic situation of the foot and prevent unnecessary sweating.

To put on the taluair[®] please follow the 4 steps below. This will ensure the reliable effectiveness of the taluair[®].

- 1 Adjustment of the heelwidth: The lower ends of the air chamber can be lifted up to adjust the width and to secure it with the hook and loop strips. The heel strap should always be in the middle.
- 2 Fasten the lower strap first. Then put on your shoe and lace it up.
- 3 Then fasten the upper strap. Make sure that the lateral parts rest against the ankle without squeezing it. Cut the hook and loop straps if they are too long, leaving the ends rounded.
- 4 To remove the brace open the hook and loop straps only. This way the individual fit of the brace will be maintained.





Hand wash at 30°C



Do not bleach



Do not iron



Do not dry-clean



Do not tumble dry

3. Cleaning, maintenance and disinfection

The orthosis is designed to be maintenance-free. To ensure proper operation over the period of treatment the orthosis should be cleaned regularly (at least every 3 months) or as required, according to the following instructions.

3.1. Care

- The product as delivered is not sterile and is not suitable for sterilization.
- Do not use harsh or abrasive cleaners.
- All fabrics can be washed by hand at 30 °C using water and a mild detergent and/or disinfectant.
- Not machine washable.
- The taluai[®] can be dried in the open air.
- In the case of more severe soiling, a replacement set of textile parts is available.
- Wipe down surfaces with a cloth soaked with disinfectant.
- Wet completely, and do not wipe off.
- Spray inaccessible surfaces.
- When spraying ensure complete wetting.
- A mild alcohol-based disinfectant is recommended.

Ask your physician or pharmacist when selecting a disinfectant, and follow the instructions given by the disinfectant manufacturer. The Robert Koch list of approved disinfectants can be found at <http://www.rki.de>.

User Instructions

4. Technical data

Description	Material
air chamber calf	PU
heel strap	PA
hook and loop strap	PA

5. Choice of size

The taluair[®] brace is available in two sizes for the right and the left ankle and in the colours black and white as shown in the table below. In addition, by virtue of the adjustment of the heel straps it can be adapted to different foot widths and, if necessary, to different degrees of swelling.

6. Size chart and article numbers

taluair [®] – white				Pronation strap for optional upgrading to talupro [®]		
Size	Body height	Art.-Nr. left	Art.-Nr. right	Art.-Nr. left	Art.-Nr. right	Colour
S	below 158 cm	600S-L	600S-R	481-020-S	481-025-S	white
M	158 cm - 163 cm	600M-L	600M-R	482-020-S	482-025-S	black
L	from 163 cm	600L-L	600L-R			
taluair [®] – black						
M	to 163 cm	600MS-L	600MS-R			
L	from 163 cm	600LS-L	600LS-R			

The pronation strap provides additional stability to the forefoot. The pronation strap can be removed. The pronation strap consist of different firm and semi-elastic materials. The inelastic materials have a supporting and fixating effect. The pronation strap is wrapped around the foot according to the principles of tapping (figure 8) in order to counteract supination and talus prolapse/ forward movement of the talus.

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