

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE FOR:**

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# De-Flex Strip

## Cast Removal Aid



Part #

Lot #

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**NOT STERILE • ASSEMBLED IN MEXICO**

# DE-FLEX STRIP CAST REMOVAL AID

## DESCRIPTION

The DE-FLEX Strip is a single-use, disposable product designed to aid in cast removal. When incorporated in the construction of a cast, it adds protection against cuts and burns from the cast saw blade.

## INDICATIONS

The DE-FLEX Strip is designed for use in casting. It is applicable in casts utilizing cotton padding, synthetic padding, or GORE® Cast Liner.

## PRECAUTIONS

**NOTE: The cut resistance of the DE-FLEX Strip is dramatically compromised when applied over a hard bony surface. Therefore, avoid placing DE-FLEX Strip directly over any prominent bony areas.**

Be sure to extend the DE-FLEX Strip beyond the anticipated margins of the fiber-glass or plaster. Include the material into the cuff in such a way that the location can be determined. Upon cast removal, visualization of both ends of the strip (on a short arm cast) will help to keep the cast saw blade properly aligned.

Always use a light up and down motion with the cast saw even when the DE-FLEX Strip is present. Remember there is always the risk of not cutting over the strip. In addition, avoid using excessive pressure with the cast saw. Excessive pressure could result in the patient being cut or burned.

Upon removal of all casts with 90 degree corners (long arm casts, all leg casts, hip spica casts, etc.), use cast spreaders frequently to make sure cutting is taking place over the DE-FLEX Strip.

## APPLICATION OF THE DE-FLEX STRIP

1. Apply the cast padding (cotton, synthetic, or GORE® Cast Liner). Cut the DE-FLEX Strip into the lengths needed. Apply them directly to the padding over the area in which cutting is anticipated. **The DE-FLEX Strip should not be in direct contact with the skin.**
2. Extend the strip an inch or so beyond the anticipated margin of the fiberglass and incorporate it in the cast 'cuff'. This will allow the location and path of the strip to be identified at the time of cast removal.
3. Apply fiberglass or plaster, as normal, over the padding and the DE-FLEX Strip.

## PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS

Inform all patients that:

1. This blue strip is to protect them from the cast saw at removal;
2. They are not to attempt to remove or displace this strip; and
3. They are to inform the healthcare professional who will be removing the cast of the existence of the strip and its purpose.

## CAST REMOVAL PROCEDURE

Locate the DE-FLEX Strip at the margins of the cast. Cut through the cast, following the path of the underlying strip. It is important to keep the cast saw blade over the strip. During cast removal, use a cast spreader to make sure cutting is still taking place over the strip.

After cutting through the fiberglass or plaster, cast spreaders should be utilized. The DE-FLEX Strip can be removed through one of two methods. Either remove the strip through the opening in the cast using a gentle tug on the end of the DE-FLEX Strip or cut through it and the underlying cast padding (and stockinet, if applicable) using scissors.

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Your satisfaction with performance and value is guaranteed.

- If for any reason you are unable to use any GORE Casting Product, we will replace it free of charge.
- If for any reason you are not satisfied with any GORE Casting Product, contact us at 800 / 528-8763 for a full refund.



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**Technical**

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US patent pending.

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