PECTUS BRACE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How is a patient evaluated at Floyd Brace?
The purpose if the initial visit is for evaluation. The practitioner will go over the patient’s history and perform a complete examination to determine patients condition and brace design. Several measurements and a cast of the patient’s chest is taken for brace fabrication. This first appointment lasts around an hour, so please come prepared.

How is the pectus brace made?
A pectus brace is custom fabricated for each individual. Several measurements are taken along with a cast of the trunk to capture the deformity. The cast is then used to create a mold for the brace to be fabricated. The brace consists of 2 metal sidebars, contoured to the patient’s body shape and two pads placed specifically over the deformity and spine to create the compression required to reduce the deformity.

Are there different types of braces?
The brace design that is used at Floyd Brace has been very successful at correcting Pectus Carinatum for many years around the world. The metal brace provides the simplest design with the most adjustability. Depending on the severity and location of the deformity a brace design can be altered for each individual for optimal fit and correction.

What kind of follow-up is needed?
A delivery appointment will be scheduled 2 weeks after the evaluation appointment. This appointment last about 1 hour. Minor adjustments or modifications will take place to insure proper fit. The brace is worn full time with regular follow ups to allow for any needed adjustments due to growth. Follow up appointments are scheduled for convenience but an adjustment appointment can be made at any time for fitting issues. Follow up appointments will usually last 30-60 minutes, depending on the number of adjustments or types of modifications required.

How to apply the brace?
The brace is applied by securing one of the straps, and then placing the pads in the correct position on the deformity and spine. Attach the opposing strap and tighten down to a comfortable setting that allows the brace to securely fasten on the patients sternum. The brace should only move with the skin. If the brace slips then fasten down tighter to prevent further migration.
How to wear the brace?
The brace is to be worn at all times (24/7). We ask that the patient wear the brace during the day, during physical activities and even sleep in it. You can take it off to shower, or swim. The brace will only work while it is worn. The more the brace is worn the better the outcome will be. The average time for the patient to wear this brace is about one year. But each patient is different and this is why it is important to comply with all follow up appointments.

How often and how long will my child need to wear the brace?
The brace is designed to be worn at all times (24/7) with limited breaks for showers or swimming. We ask that the patient wear the brace during the day, during physical activities and even sleep in it. The brace will only work while it is worn. The more the brace is worn the better the outcome will be. The average time for the patient to wear this brace is about one year. But each patient is different and this is why it is important to comply with all follow up appointments.

What kind of problems can you have with the brace?
It does take some time to get used to the brace, but the patient should not be uncomfortable. The patient will start wearing the brace for a few hours each day, building up to the 12 hour wear time within the first week. If at any time, the patient is uncomfortable or complains of pain, please call our office to make an adjustment appointment.

Are there any limitations with the brace?
The patients that we fit in the past have continued with daily activities they did before the brace.

How soon can you see improvement with the brace?
Each patient is different, but most patients can expect to see some improvement within the first 1-3 months with proper wear.
Does insurance cover?
Insurance does not cover this brace, because insurances do not have a code that this Brace can be filed with, a miscellaneous HCPC code must be used.

How much does the brace cost?
The cost of the brace is $500 (this includes the evaluation, casting, delivery and follow up appointments) $250 due at casting, $250 due at delivery.

How to clean the brace?
You can clean the brace with rubbing alcohol or mild soap and water. Towel dry – DO NOT USE A BLOW DRYER, PLACE IN THE DRYER OR LEAVE IN A HOT PLACE to dry the brace, excessive heat will ruin the brace, but normal body heat will not.