



## CMCcare Thumb Brace FAQs

### How is the CMCcare Thumb Brace different from other molded thumb orthoses?

1. The CMCcare Thumb Brace is molded from thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) with smooth, rounded edges that won't impinge on the skin.
2. The CMCcare Thumb Brace molds around the first metacarpal with a simple squeeze of the single aluminum stay.
3. The brace does not extend around the ulnar side of the hand making it easy to wear the CMCcare Thumb Brace when performing fine motor tasks such as hand writing or using small tools.
4. The CMCcare Thumb Brace is contoured to avoid pressure on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> metacarpal joints for comfortable gripping and pinching.
5. Fit is easily adjusted with the removable, replaceable and long-lasting strap. The strap is adjustable at both ends for optimal comfort. The brace includes a replacement strap and two styles of closure tabs.

### Can I bill my patient's insurance for the CMCcare Thumb Brace?

The CMCcare Thumb Brace is approved by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CSM) for the **HCPCS Upper Extremity Orthotics code L3924** – Hand Finger Orthosis, without joint, may include soft interface, straps, prefabricated, off-the-shelf.

Your insurer may require the use of the CG modifier. Please check with your insurer or billing manager to determine the correct code for your needs. Use of this code does not assure reimbursement. 3-Point Products is not a medical provider and is not responsible for filing any reimbursement or billing claims.

### Will the CMCcare Thumb Brace help anyone with CMC arthritis?

The design of the CMCcare Thumb Brace is best used for those with a Type III or swan neck deformity. The CMCcare Thumb Brace stabilizes the base of the first metacarpal on the trapezium and helps to realign the ligamentous structures to reduce the hyperextension force at the MP joint and the resulting flexion of the IP.

While the CMCcare Thumb Brace may be helpful in stabilizing early stages of other collapse deformities or ligamentous instability, it's greatest corrective action is on the swan neck thumb.

### **Can I adjust this brace with a heat gun?**

Yes, you can make minor adjustments to the edges of the splint. We recommend using a Precision Spot heat gun (available from 3-Point Products) or spot heater on a standard heat gun. You will not be able to make major modifications without the potential of damaging the brace.

### **Can I add padding for patients who have atrophy of the thenar muscles?**

You can easily add self-adherent Gel Mate silicone gel sheeting inside the CMCcare Thumb Brace for cushioning and support for those with thenar atrophy. Gel Mate® will adhere to the brace but can easily be removed, washed and replaced. Gel Mate® and patterns to fit each size of the CMCcare Thumb Brace are available from 3-Point Products.

### **Who makes the CMCcare Thumb Brace?**

The CMCcare Thumb Brace is made by Basko Healthcare, a recognized manufacturer of orthoses and orthotic components in the Netherlands.

Therapists in Europe requested a molded orthosis that offered the ability to achieve a custom fit around the first metacarpal and was designed to avoid pressure at the thumb MCP joint. Thermoplastic Polyurethane (TPU) material allowed Basko Healthcare to create a molded form with varied levels of flexibility and to include an aluminum stay for customizing the fit to the wearer.

Based on the therapist's feedback, Basko Healthcare added the removable strap with adjustable closure tabs and altered the contour of the brace to provide the effectiveness and adjustability therapists were seeking.

### **How long will the CMCcare Thumb Brace last?**

The brace is made from a highly durable and long lasting molded thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU). The brace resists abrasion, will not deform in normal heat conditions, is waterproof and can be machine washed and even gas-autoclaved for sterilization.

How long the CMCcare Thumb Brace lasts is largely dependent on how it is worn and what activities are performed with it on. In general, with proper care and cleaning, the CMCcare Thumb Brace can be expected to last for several years of daily use.