



Mangum Regional Medical Center

TITLE		POLICY
High Voltage Galvanic Stimulator with Ultrasound		808
MANUAL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVIEW DATE
Rehabilitation		
DEPARTMENT	REFERENCE	
Rehabilitation Services		

SCOPE: Professional rehabilitation staff members that will be utilizing high voltage galvanic stimulation with ultrasound for patient care at Mangum Regional Medical Center.

PURPOSE: To provide guidelines for administrating High Voltage Galvanic Stimulator with Ultrasound

DEFINITION: A modality of mild electrical stimulation combined with ultrasound (deep heat) to reduce pain, muscle spasm, edema and increase circulation).

POLICY: Physician order is received:

- Order may be specific for electrical stimulation and ultrasound (in or not in combination), or if order states for therapist to evaluate and treat as indicated

Indications:

- Muscle spasms
- Muscle weakness
- Denervated muscle
- Peripheral nerve injury
- Bell’s palsy
- Muscle re-education

Contraindications:

- Malignant or potentially malignant lesion
- Acute localized infections
- Decreased or absent sensation
- Denuded areas

Precautions:

- Low a voltage current is applied in vicinity of heart or brain: therapist will provide treatment.

PROCEDURE:

1. Before initiating treatment, the patient is evaluated by therapist to determine appropriateness of treatment.
2. Position and drape patient properly.
3. Explanation to patient:
 - a. Description -refer to purpose.
 - b. Duration -as determined by therapist (usually 7 to 10 minutes).
 - c. Sensation -mild electrical stimulation adjusted to comfort and superficial warmth.
4. Adjust intensity to "0"and plug in machine.
5. Adjust pulses per second/frequency, polarity and switching rate as indicated by therapist.
6. Adjust do duty cycle to continuous or pulsed as indicated by therapist.
7. Adjust intensity on ultrasound to "0".
8. Adjust selector switch to combination.
9. Prepare ground pad, if applicable, as per rehabilitation services policy high voltage galvanic stimulator, and apply to broad surface area.
10. Plug in both units as applicable.
11. Apply coupling medium to treatment site and spread with sound head
12. While keeping soundhead moving slowly and in constant contact with skin, set timer on high voltage galvanic stimulator unit and adjust intensity to maximal patient comfort.
13. Set timer on ultrasound unit, if required, and adjust intensity to patient's comfort continuing to keep soundhead moving at all times.
14. Treatment follow up:
 - a. Return intensity on both machines, if applicable, to off position after the timer has switched off.
 - b. Remove sound head from patient, clean with towel and facility approved disinfectant, and replace in holder.
 - c. Wipe coupling medium from treatment area with towel.
 - d. Remove ground pad from patient, if applicable, and wipe moisture from patient's body.
 - e. Dispose of used linen.
 - f. Clean up booth replacing all items used in proper place.
 - g. Wash hands per facility policy.
15. Electrical Precautions:
 - a. Avoid bony areas with ultrasound, especially spinal column.
 - b. Notify therapist immediately of any reddened or open area on skin before or after treatment.
 - c. Keep soundhead moving at all times.

REVISIONS/UPDATES

Date	Brief Description of Revision/Change

