



COHESIVE HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT & CONSULTING

Mangum Regional Medical Center

TITLE		POLICY	
High Voltage Galvanic Stimulator		807	
MANUAL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVIEW DATE	
Rehabilitation			
DEPARTMENT	REFERENCE		
Rehabilitation Services			

SCOPE: All professional rehabilitation staff that will be utilizing High Voltage Galvanic Stimulation for patient care at Mangum Regional Medical Center.

PURPOSE: This modality is a mild electrical stimulation used to reduce pain, muscle spasm, edema and increase circulation.

DEFINITION: High voltage pulsed galvanic stimulation combines very short pulse duration (of constant intensity) and high peak voltage, yet low total current per second, to give relative comfort and avoid tissue damage while stimulating deep tissues. It is also an efficient means of exciting nerve fibers.

- POLICY:** Indications:
- Muscle spasm
 - 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
 - Follow other electrical stimulation treatment contraindications

- Precautions:
- Low voltage current is applied in vicinity of heart or brain: this shall be administered by therapist

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 20 minutes.
 - c. Sensation-adjust electrical stimulation to patient comfort, a mild sensation should be noted.
4. Adjust intensity to "0" and plug in machine.
5. Adjust pulses per second/frequency and switching rate as indicated by therapist.
6. Adjust to negative or positive pole as indicated by therapist.
7. Cover electrodes with moist 4" x 4" gauze or utilize reusable electrodes; cover round pad (if applicable) with moist washcloth.
8. Apply ground pad to broad surface area and electrodes to treatment site, as indicated by therapist.
9. Set timer as indicated by therapist, usually 20 minutes.
10. Slowly adjust intensity to patient comfort
11. Instruct patient in use of audible alarm system for assistance.
12. Treatment follow up:
 - a. Readjust intensity to "0" and unplug machine.
 - b. Remove electrodes and ground pad if applicable.
 - c. Wipe moisture from patient skin with towel dispose of used linen
 - d. clean up booth replacing all items used in proper place
 - e. wash hands per facility policy
13. Electrical Precautions:
 - a. Notify therapist immediately if machine has any broken or frayed wires.
 - b. Do not operate machinery with wet hands.
 - c. Do not use dry pads.
 - d. Check the wire connections 2 electrodes prior to each use.

REVISIONS/UPDATES

Date	Brief Description of Revision/Change

