



# Burnett Vacuum Support Instructions



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## How to use and care for your Burnett Vacuum Support

### Introduction

Thank you for purchasing the Burnett Vacuum support system from RBF Healthcare. To get the best from your acquisition please read these instructions carefully.

### Overview

The Burnett system comprises an appliance of flexible PU material which is HF welded and filled with polystyrene flame retardant micro beads. The system is designed to provide comfortable support by moulding the beads to the profile of the user and extracting air from it. Extracting the air causes the casing to contract, and the beads static nature brings them together to form a mould.

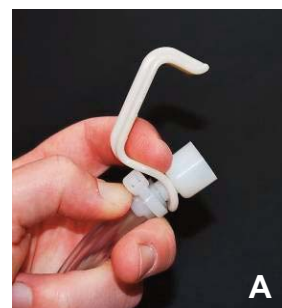
The following instructions will explain this moulding process in detail.

The system is available in a number of designs, which are categorized as

- Seating supports
- Bathing/showering supports
- Therapy supports

### Seating Supports

The seating supports can be further categorised into Cushions and head supports that use a hand pump and larger full body or back and side supports requiring a foot pump.



A

### Cushions and Head and Neck supports

Product codes 150,151,152,154,155,156,157 supplied with hand pump code 178

- 1) Place support with air present so it feels loose into desired position in contact with the user. Ensure the valve is exposed away from the user's body to allow access for the pump and to not impinge on comfort for the user.
- 2) Apply the pump as follows

2.1.1. Place your finger at the bottom of the hook shaped clip to pull it away from the nozzle (see image A)

2.1.2. Push the white nozzle onto the bottom of the valve; it will only push on by 6-8mm (.25"). Ensure it is on straight and located as far as it can go.(see images B)

2.1.3. Now clip the hook part of the adaptor over the red button of the valve. Squeezing the button down can make this easier

2.1.2. Push the white nozzle onto the bottom of the valve; it will only push on by 6-8mm (.25"). Ensure it is on straight and located as far as it can go.(see images B)



B



B



C



C

2.1.3. Now clip the hook part of the adaptor over the red button of the valve. Squeezing the button down can make this easier

**CAUTION:** The hook clip can only be located from the front of the valve as the 2 side pieces will prevent connection. (see images C)

Manipulate the beads by pushing, brushing or massaging movements until they provide the desired support. Once this has been achieved squeeze the bulb of the hand pump. (see image D)



D



E



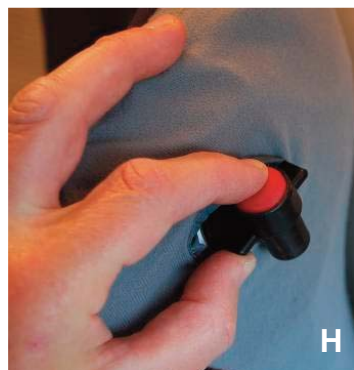
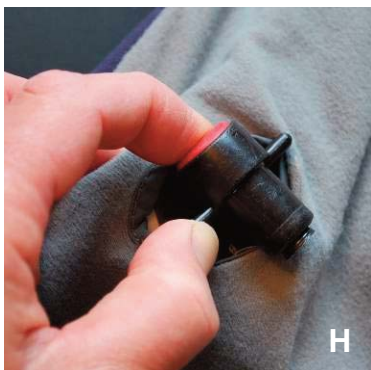
As you squeeze the bulb air is extracted and the support will become firm. Keep squeezing the bulb until it collapses down (no more air can be extracted at this point (see image E).

3) Once the desired support has been reached, carefully remove the pump by unclipping the hook from the red button (see image F) and gently pull the nozzle off of the valve. (see images G)

**CAUTION:** Do not push the red button whilst removing the clip as air will be reintroduced and compromise the mould.



4) If the mould is not quite correct it can be reset by pressing the red button on the valve without covering the nozzles end (see images H) until the beads collapse and the support is soft. From this point refer back to section 2 to 3 to remould.



**Note:** These types of supports should maintain firmness for up to 3 weeks without the need to remould.

### Full body, back & sides and bucket seats and larger seating supports

Product codes 100/CS, 101/CS, 104/CS, 105,106,153 supplied with foot pump code 179

The above seating supports are supplied with a foot pump to enable hands free moulding. This allows the user and the support to be held at the same time to provide more accurate moulding. The seating supports mentioned above are most successful when using a simple 3 stage process. This process is generally only required when using the support for the first time.

#### Stage 1 Bead manipulation and capture



Lay the support with the grey cover uppermost onto a flat surface .e.g. bed table or floor, and the valve facing to the right.

a) Shake/push/massage the beads through the cover into the desired area of the support. The more beads that are in a zone, the more support is achieved. For example if a user leans to the left then more beads need to be in the left section

b) To capture the beads in place apply the foot pump to the valve as per instructions 2.1.1 to 2.1.3.



c) Either with your hand or foot press down on the rubber pad of the pump and using short pumping actions (whilst maintaining a hand on the support) extract enough air until the support feels like plasticine ,putty or pastry, then stop pumping.



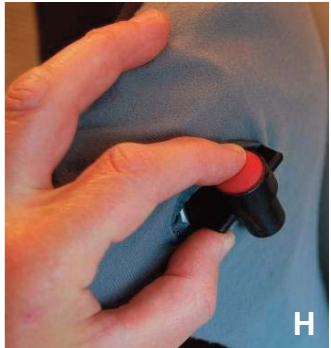


d) Remove the pump from the valve see instruction 4

Please note that the 105 and 106 supports are bucket seat moulds and would be sat upright to shape

### Stage 2 Introduce support into seat, position user and start mould process

- a) In the semi moulded state place the support into the seat unit being used. Push it into place ensuring the support fully conforms to the seat. Unless intentioned ensure the valve is at the top and the grey surface is facing away from the user. The user interface will be the fleece, quilted cotton, terry towelling or bamboo fibre surface.
- b) Transfer the user into the support and seat, ensuring the user fits into the support and any wings are not folded inwards by their body.



H

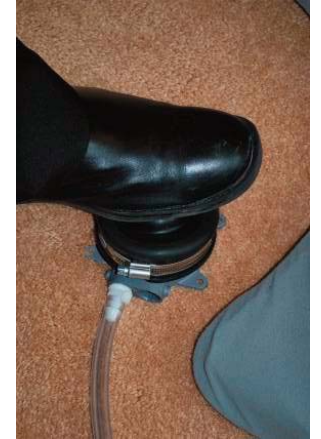


H

c) Continually push on the red button of the valve without covering the valve nozzle. Do this for between 6 to 12 seconds (See image H)

### Stage 3 Final moulding position

- a) Reapply the foot pump(see 1B)
- b) Gently push and massage the support around the user ensuring the beads fill all gaps in the users posture
- c) Whilst holding onto the user and support depress the pump with pumping action until the rubber dome collapses inwards (no more air can be extracted at this point) and the support feels very firm. (normally after 15-30 seconds)



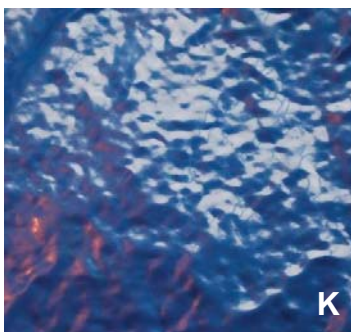
d) Remove the pump from the valve (see instruction 4) your support is now moulded. If the desired outcome is not achieved then repeat from 2c.

Please note the supports should maintain their shape almost indefinitely but to maintain this over time **reapply the pump weekly** to keep user shape.

### Instructions for Bath supports 109,109J, 109B and 103

The bath supports should be moulded as per the 3 stage process mentioned above with the additional special treatment being needed as follows:

- 1) When going through stage 1 it is important to initially shake the internal ballast bag down to the end of the seat section (see image I)  
Manipulate the beads so that there are more at the end furthest away from the drainage hole in the support, to provide a wedge (see image J). Spread the rest of the beads evenly in the top and capture them as in stage 1
- 2) When placing the support in the bath ensure all the suction cups where possible are in contact with the bath surface and are stuck down. (See additional care instructions regarding the bath surface condition.)
- 3) Introduce the client as in stage 2 and introduce air.



- 4) Connect the foot pump to the valve and pump air out as in stage 3. The surface when moulded will resemble orange peel see image K.
- 5) If the user weighs less than 25kgs(4 stone) then a double suction cup band should be employed (see additional instructions)
- 6) **CAUTION** it is critical that the bath surface is completely free of lime scale or powdery deposits left from cream cleansers or mousses, otherwise the suction cups may not stick.



**109B** Ensure the 3 straps are carefully located onto the platform of the bath. The support can be placed in a seated position using the back rest provided or laying down with this removed (refer to manufacturer's instructions for further details)

The 109/J can be positioned in either a sitting/semi reclined or fully reclined position.

#### CAUTION

if the valve submerges, do not press the red button of the valve whilst under vacuum otherwise water will be sucked into the support.

#### Self regulating cushions 300,300P, 351,352

The above mentioned products are non vacuum supports and work on the principal that the user's weight redistributes the beads and excess air is transferred into a chamber at the top of the product. This allows the support to semi mould to a users profile. These supports are designed to provide comfort only as their support is limited. As with the other bath supports ensure the suction cups are attached firmly and the bath surface is clean and free of deposits or lime scale.

#### Therapy supports

The therapy support range consists of positioning mattresses and wedges which should be moulded with the 3 stage process as mentioned previously. In addition to these items there are T rolls and w cushions available and these are described below.

#### T rolls

The Burnett T rolls are available in a free flow style and in one size as a vacuum product. The T rolls are designed to provide leg abduction when a user is in a supine position. 3 sizes of T roll are available, and the beaded system allows the therapist or carer to easily position the device for the user.

#### W cushions

The W cushion is a foam based product with cover designed by physiotherapists as an adduction aid. This item is designed to be used in supine to create a mid line position. Place on the bed or plinth where the legs need to be positioned. Transfer the user in the usual way and position the legs into the channels provided. Ensure the peak of the rounded mid section corresponds under the users knees.

## Special instructions for airline use

### IMPORTANT

It is important to note that when using the Burnett in an aircraft the following will occur even if the 3 stage process is employed. When the flight reaches ceiling altitude (generally 30,000 feet) the cabin will pressurise which has the effect of introducing air back into the support rapidly. This will cause the support to lose structure and requires the pump to be reattached and air pumped out. Please note that on descent the opposite effect occurs and the support will firm up.

## Cleaning and Maintenance

### Covers

There are a number of cover materials being used with the Burnett system; commonly these are lamb's wool fleece, cotton quilted, terry towelling, space Tek and bamboo fibre. The washing instructions for each cover type are described below. Refer to your individual washing machine instructions for best results

**Fleece** 100% lambswool fleece on a synthetic backing with nylon partner. Hands washing in warm water do not rub or machine wash at 40°. To dry, spin dry, do not wring plus natural dry only. **CAUTION** do **NOT** tumble dry do not mix with colours.

**Cotton Quilted** Machine wash at 40° to avoid shrinkage, but can be washed at 60° for infection control care should be taken to monitor for shrinkage. Natural dry cover or tumble dry on a cotton setting.

**Space Tek** Can be machine washed at 60° for 15 minutes and then for remainder of cycle at 40°. Tumble dry on synthetic setting or natural dry.

**Terry towelling** Machine wash as per instructions for cotton quilted.

**Bamboo fibre** This natural fabric has anti bacterial properties in built within its make up regardless of how many times it is washed. Therefore it can be machine washed at 30° and tumble dried on a low setting.

### Bath/shower supports

The support can be showered down in clean water and washed with a dilute solution of washing detergent. Diluted disinfectants can also be used for hygiene with special care applied to the suction cups and seams. In hard water areas it is advisable to descale the suction cups quarterly by removing them from the support and soaking in descaling solution.

## General maintenance

To get the best from your Burnett the following regular maintenance checks should be carried out.

- 1.Wash the covers regularly as per instructions to keep fresh and hygienic.
- 2.Check the valve quarterly for wear around the seal plunger and replace if needed (contact RBF for costs)
- 3.Check pump 6 monthly to ensure tube is not split and hook and nozzle are still integral and pump still evacuates air
- 4.Check seams on bath supports bi annually to ensure not compromised
- 5.Check suction cups on bath supports for wear and replace if needed (contact company for replacements)

**CAUTION** to avoid piercing of the appliance do not use around sharp objects

## Additional care instructions for the bathing supports

- 1.Ensure that the surface that the support is applied to is free of all deposits of oils, soaps and any powders left by cream mousses or cleansers.
- 2.Ensure bath surface is clear of any lime scale deposits. The surface should be treated if dull or rough feeling.
- 3.The water used in the bath should be a mix of hot and cold. Do not fill with hot water only as this will distort the casing and suction cups.
- 4.After every session clean each suction cup thoroughly with dilute washing up detergent to remove any deposits.
- 5.Once a month it is advisable in hard water areas to remove the suction cups from their press studs and soak in a dilute descaling solution to remove any deposits.

Keeping the suction cups and bath surface clear of lime scale and deposits will provide the conditions for successful adhesion. Ensure all suction cups are stuck to the surface before filling with water.

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