

## Cast Tape

FIBERGLASS | NON-STERILE

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

#### DESCRIPTION

McKesson casting products consist of a knitted fiberglass fabric impregnated with polyurethane resin. Exposure of McKesson products to moisture or water initiates a chemical reaction which causes the tapes to become rigid. Finished casts produced from McKesson casting products are lightweight, strong, radiolucent, and porous.

#### COMPOSITION

McKesson synthetic casting materials are composed of knitted fiberglass fabric impregnated with a water activated polyurethane resin. In its unhardened state the resin contains a very low volatility form of diisocyanate, commonly known as MDI. Air sampling which has been conducted indicates that diisocyanate is not present in detectable amounts during application of these materials.

Cast removal with an oscillating type cast saw generates dust which is lower in quantity and larger in particle size than the dust generated upon removal of a Plaster of Paris cast. The dust consists of glass fibers embedded in cured polyurethane and a minor amount of glass fiber dust, both of which are of non-respirable size and are considered to be nuisance dusts. Air sampling indicates that the quantity of dust particles falls well below the permissible occupational exposure limits for nuisance dusts.

#### INDICATIONS

McKesson casting products are intended for use in the construction of most common orthopedic casts, as well as specialized prosthetics and orthotic devices. Specific application suitability should be the responsibility of a qualified, on-site medical professional.

#### FLAMMABILITY

McKesson casting products meet Class I flammability requirements of Title 16 CFR 1610 (CS 191-53).

#### PRECAUTIONS

The polyurethane resin in McKesson products will adhere firmly to unprotected skin and to clothing. Protective examination or surgical gloves **MUST** be worn while handling the tape. Care should be exercised to avoid contacting unprotected areas of the patient's skin during application. One should allow the material to fully cure before touching with unprotected skin. This takes about 30 minutes.

If water immersion is anticipated, the casted extremity must be prepared with a suitable water-shedding stockinet and/or cast padding. The cast must be constructed using a minimal amount of padding and stockinet. Patients must be thoroughly instructed in techniques of drying their casts if they become wet, as prolonged or too-frequent wetting or ineffective drying can lead to skin maceration or other complications. Maximum strength is achieved when cast is thoroughly dried.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Preparation of the site, wound management, fracture reduction, postsurgical care and general patient supervision should follow established practices.

1. Slip one or two layers of stockinet over the affected part, and/or wrap with McKesson cast padding. If desired, additional cast padding may be used for greater protection of pressure points and bony prominences. It is important to use a water-shedding stockinet and cast padding to enable thorough drying if the cast should be immersed in water.
2. Gloves **MUST** be worn while wrapping the casting tape since the resin in the tape will transfer and adhere to the skin.
3. Select the desired width of McKesson casting tape. Open only one roll at a time, since room humidity may initiate hardening.
4. Immerse the roll of tape in room temperature water 70-75°F (21-24°C). **NOTE:** Three firm squeezes of the roll while it is submerged will give a set time of approximately 3 minutes. To lengthen the set time, immerse the roll and remove it immediately without squeezing. This technique will give a set time of approximately 4 minutes. When using McKesson casting tapes, there may be a decrease in slipperiness if the roll is not squeezed while submerged in water. Warmer water shortens the set time while cooler water will lengthen it. If the roll is immersed in water above 80°F (27°C) an increase in exotherm may be noted.
5. Construct the cast by wrapping spirally, overlapping the previous turn one-half to two-thirds the width of the tape. As with any cast, take care to avoid excessive tightness. To ensure a snug fit, however, wrap with slight tension on the

tape rather than the rolling application common to plaster.

6. Just three or four layers provide a strong non-weight-bearing cast and five to eight layers are typically adequate for a weight-bearing cast. Additional layers are generally not necessary for strength and will reduce porosity.

If a reinforcing strip is used in conjunction with McKesson casting tapes, immerse the strip in room temperature water, using the same procedure described in No. 4. Apply as you would a plaster splint. Reinforcing strips allow for added strength when desired.

7. Smooth and rub the tape to achieve good contact between layers. Soon after smoothing, the cast can be molded. The last part of the roll may need a few seconds extra molding with wet gloves, which will improve lamination of the roll-end lay-down.
8. About 3-4 minutes after immersion in water, McKesson tapes are sufficiently rigid to prevent further molding.
9. Allow about 20 minutes before applying loads to weight-bearing casts.
10. Walking heels, cast shoes and bracing devices can all be used with McKesson casts.
11. Should modification be necessary for therapeutic reasons, additional layers of tape can be applied to an already hardened McKesson cast. The fresh tape should be overlapped on itself to best secure it to the hardened cast.

## **SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE REQUIREMENTS**

Each roll of tape is packaged in a sealed foil pack. Care should be taken to avoid puncturing the pack as this will cause the tape to harden prematurely in the package. For best results, store product between 59°-86°F (15-30°C). For shelf life, refer to the expiration date which appears on each package.

Each pack should be gently squeezed prior to opening to check suitability for application. The roll should be soft and pliant. Do not use tape that feels hard.

Each box and pack is marked with the date of manufacture. For optimum performance, refer to the lot code to aid in ROTATING STOCK.

## **CAST REMOVAL**

McKesson casts may be windowed, trimmed or removed with traditional cast saw equipment. Although most standard saw blades are suitable for use on McKesson casts, always be sure the blade is sharp and free of debris. A blade that is not sharp will result in heat build-up and possible patient injury.

Routine cast removal precautions should be taken to avoid injury to the patient while cutting equipment is being used. Use the recommended "in and out" cast saw method.

Exposed edges of the cut cast can be abrasive and care should be exercised to avoid scratches during cast removal.

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR CAST PATIENTS**

The light weight and strength of McKesson casts impose fewer restrictions on patients' activities than do plaster casts. Therefore, the patient should be cautioned against undertaking activities which may be too vigorous or which may interfere with maintaining the reduction of the fracture or the integrity of the cast.

If the cast becomes soiled, it can be cleaned with a damp cloth. If there is a rough edge on the cast, it can be reduced with a nail file or emery board.

If cast will be immersed in water, it must be constructed with a minimum amount of both padding and stockinet. Patient must dry cast thoroughly before resuming weight-bearing or problems may result. To dry a wet cast, blot with a towel to absorb excess moisture; then, use a blower-type hair dryer. Drying time is from 30 minutes to two hours or more depending on the cast. If a hair dryer is not available, cast will air dry. Drying time will depend on the cast.

Prolonged or frequent wetting of the cast without proper drying may produce skin maceration and should be avoided. Patients should be carefully instructed in the necessity of thorough cast drying.

Care should be taken to prevent the accumulation of foreign materials, such as sand, under the cast.

### **■ Satisfaction Guaranteed**

If you are not completely satisfied with any McKesson Brands product, you may return it for a full refund or credit.