

## Above Knee (AK) Prosthesis with Skin Suction

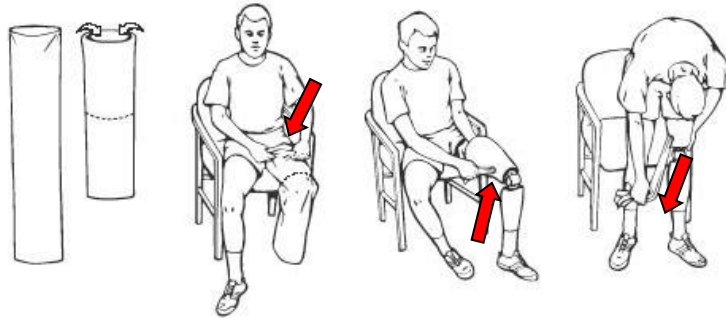
Your prosthesis has been prescribed by your doctor with the goal of allowing you to return to walking and to activities of daily living. Improper use and care of the prosthesis will increase your risk of pain, skin sores, and other fitting or mechanical problems.

### Putting the prosthesis on

There are several ways to apply (or don) a suction socket: pull sock/donning sleeve or liquid powder.

#### Pull Sock or Donning Sleeve

- Pull the sock or sleeve over your limb and up to the groin area
- Thread the end of the sock or sleeve through the valve hole at the bottom of the socket
- Push your leg into the socket, and pull the end of the sock or sleeve through the valve hole
- Alternate between lifting up and pushing down on the prosthesis while pulling more of the sock or sleeve through the valve hole
- Once the entire sock or sleeve has been removed, your leg should be firmly in place at the bottom of the socket.
- Apply your weight to the prosthesis and insert the valve into the valve housing



#### Liquid Powder

- Apply a generous amount of liquid powder lubricant all over your leg.
- Push your leg into the socket until it reaches the bottom of the socket
- Apply your weight to the prosthesis and insert the valve into the valve housing

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## **Wearing**

- Begin wearing the prosthesis for 30 minutes, 3 times per day. Increase your wear time each day by 30-60 minutes, as tolerated.
- Wear your shrinker anytime you are not wearing the prosthesis.
- If you are a new above-knee amputee, do not walk with the prosthesis before physical therapy.
- Check your skin every time you take off the prosthesis and liner.
- Wipe the inside of the socket with soap and water or rubbing alcohol every evening. Do not leave any soap residue in the socket.
- Do not sleep or bathe in the prosthesis or the liner.
- Always wear a shoe on the prosthesis. Do not switch to shoes with a lower or higher heel height.
- Stop wearing the prosthesis and call Brownfield's to make an appointment if:
  - Any redness on your skin lasts longer than 20 minutes
  - Your skin is open, blistered, callused, or painful
  - Anything on the prosthesis breaks or makes unusual noises