

BENEFITS AND OUTCOMES

Benefits

- Limits or controls adduction when sitting, standing and walking to prevent scissoring
- Provides additional abduction for muscle lengthening and sitting stability
- Provides support throughout the day
- Limits adduction during the night
- May reduce hip displacement caused by strong adductors
- Improves hip alignment
- Can prolong effects of other treatment modalities
- Maintains muscle length
- May delay the progression to surgery

Outcomes

- Improved ambulation when wearing the orthosis. "Gait scores showed improved pelvic symmetry, better knee clearance, and progression in functional walking scales in most cases"
- Longer walking distances using less energy is reported by some parents
- Vertical positions and dynamic walking are associated with improved respiratory, bladder and kidney functions
- Improved trunk control facilitates upper body function for enhanced stretching and other exercises to improve muscle control and coordination skills
- Improved sitting balance means the possibility of using both hands to perform tasks such as eating, playing, manipulating objects, and interacting with others instead of holding the sitting surface for touch balance
- Neutralizing the dislocating forces secondary to high adductor tone may arrest or reduce hip displacement
- Clinically observable impact on the function of the proprioceptive response. This can generally be seen in the
 - a) Reduced tone of the adductors
 - b) Improved posture of the trunk and
 - c) Enhanced coordination of the upper extremities resulting in better reach targeting
- Often helps the wearer overcome pathological movement patterns
- Early mobilization may also reduce subluxation and dislocation of the hips
- Improved respiratory function as a result of the more upright posture