

# Innovation Brief

## Orthotics, Podiatry and Immobilisation Framework - DF2 Brace (Paediatric Fractured Femur Brace)

### Summary

#### Disruptive innovation

The DF2 Brace is a new disruptive innovation now available via NHS Supply Chain. Reviewed by clinical specialists and supported by key stakeholders, this device offers a novel approach to managing fractured femur injuries in paediatrics as an alternative treatment to Hip Spica Casts enabling earlier treatment and avoiding hospital admissions.

### Introduction

This document is intended to inform clinical stakeholders and procurement teams about innovative products that have undergone a clinical review and are now accessible through NHS Supply Chain.

Products featured in this brief may be classified as:

- Transformative innovations
  - An existing technology that is applied the first time or applied in a novel way. An example would be an existing device being applied to a new speciality.
- Disruptive innovations
  - A disruptive innovation is novel.
  - It should offer improvements compared to the existing provision of care.
  - The proposed format should not exist elsewhere (either within or beyond the health and care sector).

**Please note:** While robust evidence or validated savings may not yet be available, early data and clinical insights support the potential for patient and system-level improvements.

### Departments / stakeholders for engagement

- NHS procurement teams
- Major trauma centres / units
- Emergency departments
- Paediatrics
- Orthopaedics
- Primary care (awareness)

### Opportunity

The DF2 Brace is an opportunity to enhance trauma care by:

- Offering an alternative treatment to the traditional Cast Hip Spica.
- Providing early intervention by medical teams in Accident & Emergency.
- Enabling the patient to be discharged at the earliest opportunity for this cohort of patients which may have care givers remaining at their side if admitted to a ward.

**We would appreciate the opportunity to develop a case study and or calculate system savings with customers who purchase this product.**

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## Product overview

The DF2 Brace is intended for femur fractures and post-operative stabilisation in paediatric population of approximately six months to five years. Applied externally and typically worn for six weeks during the healing process.

Each brace includes:

- Two washable fracture socks
- Hip Hinge:  
Maintains fracture fixation and allows for practitioner adjustment of flexion/extension as well as adduction/abduction as needed. Brace can be locked and unlocked at these angles at the practitioner's discretion
- Flexion/extension +/-100°
- Abduction/adduction +/-180°
- Outer Sleeve:  
Immobilising the knee at flexion angle 55°
- DF2 Brace comes in six sizes in either Left or Right.

## Clinical relevance:

- The DF2 Brace has potential benefits compared to Casting Hip Spica, these include:
  - Reduction of skin irritation and pressure ulcers by changing the sock and monitoring the skin.
  - Family can change and wash patient more effectively.
  - Specialist car seating not required.
  - Patient can be more active compared to Hip Spica reducing muscles stiffness.
- In many cases, using the DF2 Brace allows for fracture stabilisation in the emergency department with minimal or no sedation, avoiding the need for general anaesthesia or an operating room procedure required for spica cast application.
- Enables the patient to be treated and discharged potentially without the need to be admitted to the hospital enabling care closer to home.



## Supply details

| NPC      | MPC          | Description          |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|
| GNA86067 | NS-DF2B-0001 | DF2 - Left - XSmall  |
| GNA86066 | NS-DF2B-0002 | DF2 - Left - Small   |
| GNA86065 | NS-DF2B-0003 | DF2 - Left - Medium  |
| GNA86064 | NS-DF2B-0004 | DF2 - Left - Large   |
| GNA86063 | NS-DF2B-0005 | DF2 - Left - Xlarge  |
| GNA86072 | NS-DF2B-0101 | DF2 - Right - XSmall |
| GNA86071 | NS-DF2B-0102 | DF2 - Right - Small  |
| GNA86070 | NS-DF2B-0103 | DF2 - Right - Medium |
| GNA86069 | NS-DF2B-0104 | DF2 - Right - Large  |
| GNA86068 | NS-DF2B-0105 | DF2 - Right - Xlarge |

NPC = National Product Code

MPC = Manufacturer's Product Code

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Supplier - C-PRO DIRECT LIMITED  
Brand - Orthopediatrics  
Route - eDirect  
Unit of Issue – each  
Class 1 Medical Device - no shelf life - single use

## Supporting evidence / notes

Patient stories and case studies:

<https://vimeo.com/1011463575>

<https://vimeo.com/992338342>

<https://vimeo.com/1018396616>

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