WESTCOAST

Restoring bodies. Rebuilding lives.

WPC Compressor™

Treatment for Pectus Carinatum

What is Pectus Carinatum?

Pectus Carinatum, which is referred to as "pigeon chest," is one of the most common chest wall deformities. The condition causes the sternum to protrude, with a narrow depression along the sides of the chest. This gives the chest a bowed-out appearance similar to that of a pigeon. **People with pectus carinatum generally develop normal hearts and lungs, but the deformity may prevent these from functioning optimally.** There is evidence that pectus carinatum may prevent complete expiration of air from the lungs in children. These young people may have a decrease in stamina, even if they do not recognize it.

The condition seems to appear more often in boys rather than girls. Although it appears more frequently in boys, it typically develops later for them than it does for girls.

Apart from the possible physiological consequences, pectus deformities can have a significant psychological impact. Some children live happily with pectus carinatum. For others, the shape of the chest can damage their self-image and self-confidence.

Pigeon Chest

BEFORE

AFTER

Treatment

There are two forms of treatment of Pectus Carinatum – surgery or external bracing.
In severe cases, surgery may be used to restore normal chest contour. In moderate cases, a brace such as the WPC Compressor™ can assist with correcting the condition.

What is the right method of choice?
Surgical vs. Non-Surgical Bracing
It all begins with an evaluation by the child's physician, who then will refer the patient to a surgeon, who has experience in the management of congenital chest wall malformations. Together as a team you will decide which treatment option is best. Following the evaluation, the physician will then provide a diagnosis and a prescription for an evaluation by an Orthotist (bracing professional).

Bracing

When and how long will the child need to wear a brace?
Bracing is another option for treating Pectus Carinatum. The patient will be required to wear it during the day, during physical activity as well as to bed. The brace will be effective only if it is worn at all times. The more the child wears the brace, the greater effect it will have. The length of wearing the brace may vary, however the average is for about a year. The results of the bracing treatment varies and is also dependent on the compliance of wearing the brace.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
Contact us at (888) 552-2555
or visit **wcbl.com**

WPC COMPRESSOR
STANDARD BRACE

WPC COMPRESSOR II WITH EXTENSION
Brace for females with significant breast development or for superior chest wall deformities.

WPC COMPRESSOR RIB FLARE
STANDARD BRACE

WPC COMPRESSOR II WITHOUT EXTENSION
Brace for females with significant breast development, superior chest wall deformities or rib flare.