A.L.P.S.® Distal Fibula Plating System

Surgical Technique
A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

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A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

Introduction

The A.L.P.S. Fibula plates represent the next generation in anatomic plate design. It combines the benefits of low profile titanium plate metallurgy with the advantages of multi-planar locked screw technology. These features allow the formation of a three dimensional matrix of fixed and variable angle screws to create a true subchondral scaffold that can provide fixation in comminuted fractures or osteopenic bone.

The A.L.P.S. Fibula plates feature Type 2 Anodized Titanium Alloy low profile, anatomically contoured implants. In distal fibula surgery where soft tissue coverage is at risk, these low profile plates are designed to minimize discomfort and soft tissue irritation matching the anatomy of the distal fibula, while still having the required strength.

These plates feature F.A.S.T. Guide® and Flexible Plating Technology to facilitate surgical procedures and save time in the operating room. F.A.S.T. Guide inserts allow for accurate drilling and placement of screws. F.A.S.T. Guide inserts are preloaded and do not require intraoperative assembly. These plates can also be customized intra-operatively to achieve an optimum anatomic fit.

Additionally, the A.L.P.S. Fibula plates allow the use of locking, variable angle, and standard screws. This hybrid fixation concept allows the surgeon to stabilize the fracture either by the use of lag screw techniques through the plate, or by compression plating techniques. Locking screws serve to provide stability to comminuted, unstable metaphyseal fractures or in osteopenic bone.

The A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System is intended for fixation of fractures, osteotomies and non-unions of the fibula, malleolus, metatarsals and metacarpals, olecranon, clavicle, scapula, distal humerus and humeral head, radius, ulna and distal tibia, particularly in osteopenic bone.
A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

Low Profile Fibula Plates

- Anatomic fibula plate is pre-contoured to mimic the anatomy of the distal fibula for optimum bone conformance
- Composite locking plate combines the features of a locking compression plate and flexible plating technology
- Low profile designed to help minimize discomfort and soft tissue irritation
- Flexible plating technology delivers intra-operative customization
- Multiple sizes available to suit a wide variety of patients
- Engineered from Type 2 Anodized Titanium Alloy for increased fatigue strength over stainless steel, color anodized titanium and machined titanium¹

For distal fibula procedures that often involve complex fractures and minimal tissue coverage, the A.L.P.S. Anatomic and Composite Locking Plates provide both strength and low-profile advantages. Having a slim profile with the capability to contour in-situ, these plates may be used to treat even the most challenging cases.
A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

Fast, Accurate Surgeries

F.A.S.T. Guide Technology

- Facilitate accurate drilling
- Pre-loaded and disposable
- Save time in the OR since no intra-operative assembly is required
- Color coded guides make identification easy:
  red guide = right, lime guide = left, blue guide = bilateral

Intra-operative Customization

- Flexible plating technology delivers intra-operative customization
- Composite plates can be contoured in both coronal and axial planes

To facilitate surgical procedures even more, our Anatomic and Composite Fibula Plates come pre-loaded with Fixed Angle Screw Targeting F.A.S.T. Guide Technology that directs the trajectory of the drill right into the plate.
A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

Versatility in Construct

Locking, Non-Locking and Multi-Directional Screw Options

• Choose locking or non-locking screws, according to need

• Tapered, threaded screws lock into position when tightened to establish a fixed angle construct for strong fixation or when optimal screw purchase is required

• 3.5 mm low profile non-locking screws provide the same low profile design as locking screws for minimum soft tissue irritation

• Locking multi-directional screws (MDS) allow for up to 15 degrees of angulation from center for greater fixation

Particularly helpful in challenging fracture cases, the multiple screw options allow plates and screws to be placed as close to the bone surface as possible.
A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

Anatomic Fibula Locking Plate

- **3.5 mm multi-directional locking screws** allow for up to 15 degrees of angulation from center
- **Low profile, anatomically contoured plate design** to minimize soft tissue irritation
- **Gradual transition** for optimal stress distribution
- **K-wire holes** for temporary fixation
- **Threaded holes** for locking 2.7 mm, 3.5 mm, 4.0 mm, and 3.5 mm multi-directional screws
- **1.6 mm F.A.S.T. Guide adapter** for provisional fixation through F.A.S.T. Guide insert

**Anatomical Fibula Locking Plate**

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<td>Lengths</td>
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Fibula Composite Locking Plate

Type 2 Anodized Titanium Alloy for increased fatigue strength over stainless steel, color anodized titanium and machined titanium

Compression holes in the shaft of the plate for:
- 2.7 mm standard non-locking screws
- 3.5 mm low profile and standard non-locking screws
- 4.0 mm standard non-locking screws - optional

Threaded holes for:
- locking 2.7 mm, 3.5 mm, 4.0 mm, and 3.5 mm multi-directional screws

Pre-assembled F.A.S.T. Guide inserts for easy drilling and bending

1.6 mm F.A.S.T. Guide adapter for provisional fixation through F.A.S.T Guide

K-wire holes for temporary fixation

Gradual transition for optimal stress distribution

Proximal bullet tip facilitates submuscular plate insertion

3.5 mm multi-directional locking screws allow for up to 15 degrees of angulation from center

Low profile, bendable nodes for intra-operative customization

Fibula Composite Plate

<p>| | |</p>
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### Screw Specifications

#### 3.5 mm Low Profile Non-Locking Screw:
- Low profile head design reduces prominence beyond the plate
- Self tapping tip eases screw insertion
- Square drive for maximum torque delivery
- Type 2 Anodized Titanium Alloy for increased fatigue strength over stainless steel, color anodized titanium and machined titanium
- Screw (Cat. No. 1312-18-0XX) uses a 2.5 mm Drill Bit (8290-29-070) and can be installed in any threaded or compression hole in the plate
- Available in lengths of 10 – 70 mm

#### 2.7 mm Locking Cortical Screw:
- Self tapping tip minimizes the need for pre-tapping and eases screw insertion
- Tapered screw head helps with alignment of the screw head into the plate hole
- Tapered threaded head minimizes screw back-out and construct pullout
- T-15 drive
- Available in lengths of 10 – 50 mm
- Screw (8163-27-0XX) uses a 2.0 mm Marked Drill Bit (8163-01-009)

#### 3.5 mm Locking Cortical Screw:
- Larger core diameter and shallower thread pitch for improved bending and shear strength compared to a standard 3.5 mm cortical screw
- Self tapping tip minimizes the need for pre-tapping and eases screw insertion
- Tapered screw head helps with alignment of the screw head into the plate hole
- Tapered threaded head minimizes screw back-out and construct pullout
- T-15 drive
- Available in lengths of 10 – 70 mm
- Screw (8161-35-0XX) uses a 2.7 mm Drill Bit (2142-27-070)

#### 3.5 mm Locking Multi-Directional Screw:
- Cobalt-Chrome screw with large core diameter
- Multi-directional capability offers a 30 degree cone of angulation
- Creates own thread in plate to help provide strong and stable construct
- Screw head designed to prevent it from going through the threaded screw hole
- Self tapping tip minimizes the need for pre-tapping and eases screw insertion
- 2.2 mm square drive
- Available in lengths of 10 – 60 mm
- Screw (8163-35-0XX) uses a 2.7 mm Drill Bit (2142-27-070)

#### 4.0 mm Locking Cancellous Screw:
- Self tapping tip minimizes the need for pre-tapping and eases screw insertion
- Tapered screw head helps with alignment of the screw head into the plate hole
- Tapered threaded head minimizes screw back-out and construct pullout
- T-15 drive
- Available in lengths of 10 – 70 mm
- Screw (8161-40-0XX) uses a 2.7 mm Drill Bit (2142-27-070)
Plates

**Anatomic Fibula Locking Plate**

(8162-0X-0XX)
The Anatomic Fibula Plate is a low profile, anatomically contoured plate, designed to fit on the lateral aspect of the distal fibula. These thin plates are designed to minimize discomfort and soft tissue irritation around the ankle, while still having the strength needed to achieve rigid fixation of the distal fibula fracture. All plates come with F.A.S.T. Guide inserts inserted in the head portion for accurate drilling and placement of screws, with locking, lagging, or variable angle screw options available in the same construct (Figure 1).

These plates are pre-contoured and need little, if any, secondary adjustments to their shape. Contourable F.A.S.T. Tabs® Technology with a threaded screw hole is present distally to lock small distal fragments to the plate. This tab is adjustable with Composite Plate Benders that fit over the F.A.S.T. Guide inserts for easy and secure control. Contouring can be performed before application, or in situ.

**Fibula Composite Locking Plate**

(8162-04-0XX)
The Fibula Composite Plate is a low profile plate that combines the features of a locking compression plate with flexible plating technology. These thin plates are designed to minimize discomfort and soft tissue irritation around the ankle, while still having the strength needed to achieve rigid fixation of the fibula fracture. All plates come with F.A.S.T. Guide inserts for accurate drilling and placement of screws, with locking, lagging, or variable angle screw options available in the same construct (Figure 2).

These plates provide the flexibility of in-situ contourability to mimic the patient’s natural anatomy. Contourable plate nodes with threaded screw holes are present distally to lock small distal fragments to the plate. These locking and non-locking plate nodes are adjustable in the coronal and axial planes and are contourable with Composite Plate Benders that fit over the F.A.S.T. Guide inserts for easy and secure control. Contouring can be performed before application, or in situ.
A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

Anatomic Fibula Plate Bending

In most cases the pre-contoured plate will fit without the need for further bending. The distal tab may be contoured as needed using F.A.S.T. Guide inserts and Composite Plate Benders (8163-01-017). To contour the F.A.S.T. Tabs portion, place the cylindrical ends of the benders over opposing F.A.S.T. Guide inserts and exert pressure on the distal bender until the desired contour is achieved (Figures 3 and 4).

Plates can be contoured outside the patient or intra-operatively. If the plate is contoured intra-operatively, then a 3.5 mm non-locking screw should be used in either a non-locking or locking hole to secure the plate to the bone.

Note: Bending the distal tab beyond 20 degrees may result in breakage. Continuous bending will also fatigue the tab and cause it to break.
Application of the Anatomic Plate

Provisional Fixation

Once the fit of the Anatomic Plate has been confirmed both visually and fluoroscopically, 1.6 mm K-wires can be placed into the proximal K-wire holes to secure the plate to the bone (Figure 5).

Additionally, a 1.6 mm F.A.S.T. Guide Adapter (2312-18-015) can be inserted into a F.A.S.T. Guide insert to accept a 1.6 mm K-wire (Figure 6).

A provisional Fixation Pin (8242-99-000/1) may also be used to secure the plate temporarily.

The pin has a self-drilling tip and an AO quick connection for power insertion. Advance the pin slowly until the shoulder of the pin contacts the plate and pulls the plate down to the bone. Avoid advancing the pin beyond this point to prevent stripping of threads (Figure 7).
A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

Composite Plate Bending

Plates can be contoured to achieve an anatomic fit by utilizing the F.A.S.T. Guide inserts and Composite Plate Benders (8163-01-017). Use the cylindrical ends of the benders to achieve single plane bending. To contour the plate in the coronal plane by bending the plate toward the user (Figure 8) or away from the user (Figure 9), place the cylindrical ends of the benders over the F.A.S.T. Guide inserts and hold one bender as an anchor and manipulate with the other. The plates can be contoured up to 45 degrees at each bridge between the F.A.S.T. Guide inserts.

Use the square ends of the benders to achieve multi-planar bending. To contour the plate axially or to achieve a twist shape (Figure 10), place the square ends of the benders over the F.A.S.T. Guide inserts and hold one bender as an anchor and manipulate with the other. The plates can be contoured up to 45 degrees at each bridge between the F.A.S.T. Guide inserts.

Plates can be contoured outside the patient or intra-operatively. If the plate is contoured intra-operatively, then a 3.5 mm non-locking screw should be used in either a non-locking or locking hole to secure the plate to the bone.

Note: Bending the distal tab beyond 45 degrees may result in breakage. Continuous bending will also fatigue the tab and cause it to break.
Secure the plate to the bone using 1.6 mm K-wires. (Figure 11)

Additionally, a 1.6 mm F.A.S.T. Guide Adapter (2312-18-015) can be inserted into a F.A.S.T. Guide insert to accept a 1.6 mm K-wire (Figure 12).

A provisional Fixation Pin may also be used to secure the plate temporarily. The pin has a self-drilling tip and an AO quick connection for power insertion. Advance the pin slowly until the shoulder of the pin contacts the plate and pulls the plate down to the bone. Avoid advancing the pin beyond this point to prevent stripping of threads (Figure 13).

A provisional Fixation Pin (8242-99-000/1) may also be used to secure the plate temporarily. The pin has a self-drilling tip and an AO quick connection for power insertion. Advance the pin slowly until the shoulder of the pin contacts the plate and pulls the plate down to the bone. Avoid advancing the pin beyond this point to prevent stripping of threads (Figure 13).
Screw Insertion

The technique to insert screws onto the Anatomic and Composite plates is the same. Application of screws is shown on the Composite Plate. Insertion of a 2.7 mm Non-Locking Cortical Screw (8140-27-0XX) in a Compression or Threaded Hole.

Insert the 2.0 mm end of the 2.0/2.7 mm Drill Guide (9399-99-435) into the compression hole and drill through both cortices with the 2.0 mm Drill Bit (9399-99-382) (Figure 14).

Measure the drilled hole with the Small Fragment Depth Gauge (2142-35-100) (Figure 15) by taking a direct reading from the NON-L line.

Insert the appropriate length 2.7 mm Non-Locking Cortical Screw with the Screw Holder Sleeve (8241-66-000) over the 2.5 mm Hex Driver (8241-57-071) coupled to the Ratchet Handle (8261-66-000) (Figure 16).

Note: For flush seating of the plate against the bone, use a non-locking screw prior to inserting a locked screw. If a non-locking screw is used in the distal part of the plate, then that F.A.S.T. Guide insert needs to be removed prior to drilling.
### Insertion of a 3.5 mm Non-Locking Cortical Screw in a Compression or Threaded Hole.

Insert the 2.5 mm end of the 2.5/3.5 mm Drill Guide (8241-96-000) into the threaded or compression hole and drill through both cortices with the 2.5 mm Drill Bit (8290-29-070) (Figure 17).

Measure the drilled hole with the Small Fragment Depth Gauge (2142-35-100) (Figure 18) by taking a direct reading from the NON-L line.

#### 3.5 mm Standard Screw
Insert the appropriate length 3.5 mm Non-Locking Cortical Screw with the Screw Holder Sleeve (8241-66-000) over the 2.5 mm Hex Driver (8241-57-071) coupled to the Ratchet Handle (8261-66-000) (Figure 19).

#### 3.5 mm Low Profile Screw
Insert the appropriate length 3.5 mm Low Profile Non-Locking Cortical Screw with the 2.2 mm Square Driver (8163-01-000) coupled to the Ratchet Handle (C8261-66-000) (Figure 20).

**Note:** For flush seating of the plate against the bone, use a non-locking screw prior to inserting a locked screw. If a non-locking screw is used in the distal part of the plate, then that F.A.S.T. Guide insert needs to be removed prior to drilling.
A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

Slide the Measuring Drill Sleeve (8163-01-005) onto the 2.7 mm Drill Bit (2142-27-070) (Figure 21). Drill through the F.A.S.T. Guide insert until the far cortex is reached. Slide the Measuring Drill Sleeve onto the top end of the F.A.S.T. Guide insert and read the measurement of the Locking Screw length from the proximal end of the Drill Measuring Sleeve (Figure 22).

**Note:** If a second method of measurement is desired, remove the F.A.S.T. Guide insert, then measure the drilled hole by taking a direct reading from the LOCK line on the Small Fragment Depth Gauge.

Next, remove the F.A.S.T. Guide insert with the T-15 Driver (2142-15-070) that is attached to the Ratchet Handle (8261-66-000) and insert the pre-determined Locking Screw using the T-15 Driver that is attached to the 2.0 Nm Torque-Limiting Screwdriver Handle (2141-18-001) (Figure 23). This can also be done using the Torque Limiting Power Adapter (2312-18-020) to power in the locking screws.

**Tip:** If using power without a torque limiting power adapter, it should be at a slow speed. Perform all final screw tightening by hand with the Torque-Limiting Screwdriver.
Insertion of a 2.7 mm Cortical Locking Screw (8163-27-0XX) into a Threaded Hole with a F.A.S.T. Guide Insert.

Slide the 2.0 mm Measuring Drill Sleeve (8163-01-016) onto the 2.0 mm Marked Drill Bit (8163-01-009) (Figure 24). Place the 2.0 mm F.A.S.T. Guide Converter Handle (2312-18-010) through the F.A.S.T. Guide insert (Figure 25).

Drill through the F.A.S.T. Guide insert until the far cortex is reached. Slide the 2.0 mm Measuring Drill Sleeve onto the top end of the 2.0 mm F.A.S.T. Guide Converter Handle and read the measurement of the Locking Screw length from the window of the 2.0 mm Drill Measuring Sleeve (Figure 26).

Note: If a second method of measurement is desired, remove the F.A.S.T. Guide insert, then measure the drilled hole by taking a direct reading from the LOCK line on the Small Fragment Depth Gauge.
A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System

Insert 2.7 mm Locking Drill Guide, drill with the 2.7 mm Drill Bit, and read the depth from the top of the Drill Guide.

Next, remove the F.A.S.T. Guide insert with the T-15 Driver (2142-15-070) that is attached to the Ratchet Handle (8261-66-000) and insert the pre-determined Locking Screw using the T-15 Driver that is attached to the 2.0 Nm Torque-Limiting Screwdriver Handle (2141-18-001) (Figure 27). This can also be done using the Torque Limiting Power Adapter (2312-18-020) to power in the locking screws.

**Tip:** If using power without a torque limiting power adapter, it should be at a slow speed. Perform all final screw tightening by hand with the Torque-Limiting Screwdriver.

The proximal end of the plate can now be secured to the bone. This can be achieved through the following options:

Insertion of a Locking Screw (3.5 mm Cortical 8161-35-0XX or 4.0 mm Cancellous 8161-40-0XX) in a Threaded Hole without a F.A.S.T. Guide insert.

Screw the 2.7 mm Locking Drill Guide (2142-07-027) into a threaded plate hole until fully seated. Drill both cortices with the 2.7 mm Drill Bit to the desired depth and read the depth measurement from the drill bit at the top of the drill guide (Figure 28). Remove the 2.7 mm Locking Drill Guide.
Screw Insertion

Note: If a second method of measurement is desired, remove the F.A.S.T. Guide insert, then measure the drilled hole by taking a direct reading from the LOCK line on the Small Fragment Depth Gauge (Figure 29).

Insert the selected Locking Screw with the T-15 Driver (2142-15-070) coupled to the 2.0 Nm Torque-Limiting Screwdriver Handle (2142-18-001) (Figure 30).

This can also be done using the Torque Limiting Power Adapter (2312-18-020) to power in the locking screws.

Tip: If using power without a torque limiting power adapter, it should be at a slow speed. Perform all final screw tightening by hand with the Torque-Limiting Screwdriver.
Screw the 2.0 mm Locking Drill Guide (2142-07-020) into a threaded plate hole until fully seated. Drill both cortices with the 2.0 mm Marked Drill Bit (8163-01-009) to the desired depth (Figure 31). Remove the 2.0 mm Locking Drill Guide.

Measure the drilled hole with the Small Fragment Depth Gauge (2142-35-100) by taking a direct reading from the LOCK line (Figure 32) and insert the appropriate length 2.7 mm Locking Screw with the T-15 Driver (2142-15-070) that is attached to the 2.0 Nm Torque-Limiting Screwdriver Handle (2141-18-001) (Figure 33).

This can also be done using the Torque Limiting Power Adapter (2312-18-020) to power in the locking screws.

**Tip:** If using power without a torque limiting power adapter, it should be at a slow speed. Perform all final screw tightening by hand with the Torque-Limiting Screwdriver.
Insertion of a 3.5 mm Multi-Directional Locking Screw in a Threaded Locking Hole (8163-35-0XX).

**Note:** If inserting a 3.5 mm Multi-Directional Screw in threaded hole with a F.A.S.T. Guide insert, then first remove the F.A.S.T. Guide insert before commencing the technique. Additionally, note that the Torque Limiting Handle should not be used.

Insert the 2.7 mm end of the 2.0/2.7 mm Drill Guide (9399-99-435) into the plate hole and angle the drill as needed within an arc of 15 degrees (Figure 34). Drill through both cortices with the 2.7 mm Drill Bit (2142-27-070) (Figure 35).

Measure the drilled hole with the Small Fragment Depth Gauge (2142-35-100) by taking a direct reading from the LOCK line (Figure 36) and insert the appropriate length 3.5 mm Multi-Directional Screw with the 2.2 mm Square Driver (8163-01-000) coupled to the Ratchet Handle (8261-66-000) (Figure 37).
## Ordering Information

### Anatomic Fibula Locking Plates:

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### Fibula Composite Locking Plates:

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Screws:

2.7 mm Cortical Screws, Locking 8163-27-0XX
10 – 50 mm in 2 mm increments

2.7 mm Cortical Screws, Non-Locking 8140-27-0XX
10 – 50 mm in 2 mm increments
50 – 70 mm in 5 mm increments

3.5 mm Cortical Screws, Locking 8161-35-0XX
10 – 60 mm in 2 mm increments
60 – 70 mm in 5 mm increments

3.5 mm Multi-Directional Screws, Locking 8163-35-0XX
10 – 60 mm in 2 mm increments

3.5 mm Low Profile Cortical Screws, Non-Locking 1312-18-0XX
10 – 50 mm in 2 mm increments
50 – 70 mm in 5 mm increments

3.5 mm Cortical Screws, Non-Locking 8150-37-0XX
10 – 50 mm in 2 mm increments
50 – 70 mm in 5 mm increments

4.0 mm Cancellous Screws, Full Thread, Locking 8161-40-0XX
10 – 50 mm in 2 mm increments
50 – 70 mm in 5 mm increments

4.0 mm Cancellous Screws, Full Thread, Non-Locking 8153-41-0XX
10 – 50 mm in 2 mm increments
50 – 70 mm in 5 mm increments

4.0 mm Cancellous Screws, Partial Thread, Non-Locking 8155-40-0XX
14 – 30 mm in 2 mm increments
30 – 70 mm in 5 mm increments

4.0 mm Cannulated Cancellous Screws, Partial Thread, Non-Locking 14376-XX
10 – 50 mm in 2 mm increments
50 – 70 mm in 5 mm increments
INDICATIONS:
The A.L.P.S. Distal Fibula Plating System is intended for fixation of fractures, osteotomies and non-unions of the fibula, malleolus, metatarsals and metacarpals, olecranon, clavicle, scapula, distal humerus and humeral head, radius, ulna and distal tibia, particularly in osteopenic bone.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:
Contraindications (orthopaedic screws, intramedullary nails, plates, compression hip screws, pins and wires):  
- Cases where there is an active infection.  
- Conditions which tend to retard healing such as, blood supply limitations, previous infections, etc.  
- Insufficient quantity or quality of bone to permit stabilization of the fracture.  
- Conditions that restrict the patient’s ability or willingness to follow postoperative instructions during the healing process.  
- Foreign body sensitivity – where material sensitivity is suspected, appropriate tests should be made and sensitivity ruled out prior to implantations.  
- Cases where the implant(s) would cross open epiphyseal plates in skeletally immature patients.  

Additional Contraindications – Orthopaedic Screws and Plates Only:  
Cases with malignant primary or metastatic tumors which preclude adequate bone support or screw fixations, unless supplemental fixation or stabilization methods are utilized.

References:  

For indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions, potential adverse effects and patient counselling information, see the package insert or contact your local representative; visit www.zimmerbiomet.com for additional product information.  

Zimmer Biomet does not practice medicine. This technique was developed in conjunction with a health care professional. This document is intended for surgeons and is not intended for laypersons. Each surgeon should exercise his or her own independent judgment in the diagnosis and treatment of an individual patient, and this information does not purport to replace the comprehensive training surgeons have received. As with all surgical procedures, the technique used in each case will depend on the surgeon’s medical judgment as the best treatment for each patient. Results will vary based on health, weight, activity and other variables. Not all patients are candidates for this product and/or procedure. Caution: Federal (USA) law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a surgeon. Rx only.  

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