
**Prosthetics and orthotics — Soft
orthoses — Uses, functions,
classification and description**

*Prothèses et orthèses — Orthèses souples — Utilisations, fonctions,
classification et description*

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 168, *Prosthetics and orthotics*.

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Introduction

No internationally accepted method is available to describe externally applied devices constructed from flexible materials which apply pressure to the body segments which they encompass. In some countries these devices are referred to as “bandages”.

This situation has created problems for practitioners prescribing these devices, for manufacturers when describing their products and for those reporting on the devices used in the treatment of their patients and their effects.

This document proposes the adoption of the term “soft orthoses” for this group of devices. It specifies their uses and functions, and classifies and describes the devices and their components.

Manufacturers’ trade names and details of materials and manufacturing processes have been avoided.

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