Richie AeroSpring Brace System Fitting Instructions

Fitting Goals:

1. Footplate fits snug in shoe to prevent migration.
2. Upright strut should not excessively push out the shoe.
3. Upright strut should not contact the patient.

The Richie AeroSpring Bracing System requires a properly fitted shoe with laces, a removable insole, and a deep heel counter to make room for the brace and wedges.

First, with shoe removed, the patient should slip on the Richie AeroSpring. The strut should be positioned so it does not contact the patient. An allowance of 1/4" should be maintained between the upright strut and the patient's skin.

Follow these steps to fit the patient into the brace to wear the system comfortably:

- Remove the insole or footbed from the patient's shoes.
- Loosen the shoe laces from the front to back as far as possible.
- Place the entire "system," which includes the brace, the wedge, and the foot orthotic, into the shoe. The footplate does not have to reach the end of the shoe but must reach the end of the longest toe.
- The patient should be sitting in a chair during fitting.
- Position the brace behind the leg of the patient and slide their foot into the shoe, on top of the foot orthotic and the wedge.
- To position the foot directly under the knee, slide the foot and shoe backwards, positioning the ankle at 90 degrees dorsiflexion.
- Secure, tighten, and tie the shoelace.
- Secure the straps of the brace at the top of the leg, keeping the foot positioned under the knee and with the ankle joint at 90 degrees dorsiflexed.
- Place the wedge and foot orthotic into the contralateral shoe. Lace and tie the shoe appropriately.
- The footplate of the OTC carbon fiber AFO brace can be shortened and narrowed by grinding. The doctor should be prepared to make grinding adjustments if necessary. Please contact Allied OSI Labs for any questions.

- Finally, be sure the footplate is sanded to a smooth, round edge to prevent the footplate from damaging the shoe.