

Ulnar Nerve Palsy Splint

by

Patricia Wilkerson, O.T.R. and Robert Keagy, M.D.

The splint illustrated is used to prevent hyperextension of the fourth and fifth metacarpophalangeal joints. It consists of a one-inch wide contoured cuff made

of Orthoplast. It is fitted to the hand so that full flexion of the MP joints is allowed and the palmar arch is maintained.

The cuff is secured by velcro



FIGURE 1

which originates from the palmar portion, crosses the web space below the MP joint of the index finger, and attaches onto the dorsal portion of the cuff. Originating from the dorsum of the cuff are two posts which extend over the MP joints and terminate in semi-rings at the mid-point of the proximal phalanges of the fourth and fifth digits. The posts and semi-rings are immovable and act

as a stop to the phalanges thus preventing extension of the MP joints beyond zero degrees. During flexion of the MP joints, the posts remain in position extending free.

The Orthoplast material allows adequate rigidity to maintain the form and position of the splint and yet permits sufficient flexibility so the splint does not interfere with hand mobility.