



Dragonfly TLSO FAQ

Q: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A THERATOGS SYSTEM AND THE NEW THERALIGN DRAGONFLY TLSO?

A: The Dragonfly TLSO is a code-verified truncal orthotic system which combines a warm-and-form rigid bracing component with a TheraTogs garment subsystem. The bracing component and the garment subsystem are designed to work together to deliver somatosensory input, gentle alignment support, and flexible stability.

A regular TheraTogs garment system does not include a rigid bracing component, and is not code-verified for reimbursement. It is designed to replicate successful manual sensorimotor training techniques with an adaptable garment system that allows the wearer to engage in routine activities with improved joint alignment, all day long.

Q: IN WHAT SIZES IS THE DRAGONFLY TLSO AVAILABLE?

A: The Dragonfly is now available in pediatric (15 to 110 lbs) and adult (110 to 190 lbs) configurations. We anticipate adding a range of smaller Infant sizes in early 2016.

Q: HOW DO I DETERMINE WHAT SIZE TO ORDER FOR MY CLIENT?

A: We have a sizing diagram and order form to help you identify the correct size for each of the three components — all you need are six easy measurements. You can download the form from our website: theratogs.com/dragonfly.

Q: WHAT IF MY CLIENT MEASUREMENTS DON'T QUITE FIT IN THE SIZING CHART?

A: The Dragonfly is designed to provide some flexibility when it comes to fitting, particularly if the client's spinal length doesn't quite match up with the chart's ranges. Position the Dragonfly during fitting so that you get the best possible spinal support; the resulting location of the shoulder straps and the 'tail' are less essential, from a functional standpoint. If necessary, you can trim the tail piece (if too long for seating) or gently stretch the shoulder arms (for a more comfortable fit) -- or both. The key objective is to get the spine supported with the rib and pelvic wings in proper position.

Q: WHAT DO I NEED TO CUSTOMIZE AND FIT THE DRAGONFLY?

A: The main requirement is a heat source that can warm the flat Dragonfly to 200° Fahrenheit for up to 10 minutes. The best option is a standard orthotic oven — convection or infrared (IR) — of sufficient size. Here's a quick list of the minimum heating dimensions of the Dragonfly components:

Model	Dimension (in)	Model	Dimension (in)	Model	Dimension (in)
DFLY30	16 x 12	DFLY40	21 x 13	DFLY53	29 x 24
DFLY33	17 x 15	DFLY48	21 x 13		

If you are doing a home visit or don't have an oven available, any standard food warming tray, 'hot plate', or heating packs of sufficient length can be used to soften the Dragonfly panel for forming.

WARNING: DO NOT USE A HYDROCLULATOR OR OTHER HOT-WATER SOURCE TO WARM THE DRAGONFLY — THIS MAY CAUSE THE COMPOSITE MATERIAL TO DELAMINATE AND COME APART.

Place the fabric side of the Dragonfly on, or wrap it with, the heat source and cover it with a folded towel to retain the heat. Times and temperatures will vary; generally, 12-15 minutes from a 'cold start' will prepare the Dragonfly for molding.

You can adjust the Dragonfly with a hand-held heat source such as a heat gun, but it is difficult and time-consuming to do the entire warm-and-form process with such a small-scale heat source.

Q: IS THE DRAGONFLY SYSTEM REIMBURSABLE?

A: Yes, Dragonfly TLSO systems are code verified by PDAC-CMS to utilize HCPCS code L 0456 on reimbursement claims and funding requests. Actual reimbursement amounts will vary by funding agency and coverage, of course.

Q: WHO CAN SUBMIT INSURANCE FUNDING REQUESTS FOR DRAGONFLY SYSTEMS?

A: The Dragonfly TLSO is an orthotic system, so only certified Orthotists, Prosthetists, and DME representatives can submit claims for reimbursement.

Q: DO I HAVE TO USE THE DRAGONFLY BRACE WITH THE GARMENT SUBSYSTEM?

A: Yes, the garment subsystem is always a part of the attachment mechanism for the Dragonfly spinal brace. However, you can remove the spinal brace for periods of time to meet treatment objectives, to enhance therapy sessions, or for client relaxation. The garment subsystem will still continue to provide postural alignment, proprioceptive input, and trunk support via torso strapping.

The TLSO was reviewed by PDAC as an integrated system; the Dragonfly by itself is not a code-verified device.

Q: WHAT IS DIFFERENT ABOUT THE DRAGONFLY TLSO COMPARED TO OTHER TLSO DEVICES?

A: There are significant differences in both design and intended applications:

Design. There are four design elements unique to the Dragonfly TLSO:

- The warm-and-form materials allow for true customization of the system — far beyond simply adjusting a few straps for fit.
- The double-wing design provides significant lateral trunk support, superior to the “spinal shaft” design of other devices.
- The Dragonfly spinal panel is designed to be custom-molded to the top of the pelvic crest — establishing the pelvis as the base of support for the spine. It does not require severe abdominal constriction or any kind of ‘cinching device’.
- The garment subsystem allows the fitting clinician to address a wide range of postural and functional alignment issues.

Applications. Most TLSO bracing systems are identified by their manufacturers to be used to address scoliosis. The Dragonfly TLSO is designed to address a wide range of indications relative to postural deficits and trunk alignment issues, including: hypotonia, flexible kyphosis, flexible lordosis, osteoporosis, and excessive pelvic tilt. The Dragonfly TLSO can also help address functional scoliosis that can be resolved with manual manipulation, without force.

By virtue of its brace-plus-garment-subsystem design, the Dragonfly TLSO provides a more comprehensive approach to addressing these issues.

Q: DO I HAVE TO GET CERTIFIED BEFORE ORDERING THE PRODUCT?

A: No certification is necessary. To facilitate a successful fitting, all Dragonfly TLSO systems include step-by-step donning instructions and a DVD.

Q: CAN I GET CERTIFIED OR OTHERWISE TRAINED FOR USE OF THE DRAGONFLY TLSO/SUBSYSTEM COMBINATION?

A: Our training partner, Progressive GaitWays LLC, offers a Certified TheraTogs Fitter (CTF) workshop that trains clinicians in the science and application of TheraTogs garment systems for posture and torso alignment.

At this point, that workshop does not include specific training in Dragonfly application, but we plan to offer a webinar/training video, specific to TLSO fitting, in Q1 of 2016. We anticipate that ABC scientific credits will be awarded for this webinar.

Q: WHAT DOES “WARM-AND-FORM” MEAN, AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

A: “Warm-and-form” means to heat and soften the Dragonfly into a moldable state, so that it can be wrapped around and customized to the wearer’s body. It then cools and hardens, forming a custom-fitted orthotic spinal support panel.

Q: WHAT IF I NEED MORE STRAPPING BEYOND WHAT THE SUBSYSTEM ALREADY PROVIDES?

A: Replacement or expansion parts can be ordered directly from TheraTogs. Every Dragonfly system includes a Clinician Packet of information; in this packet are Replacement Parts forms and ordering instructions, for just this purpose.

Q: CAN A PHYSICAL OR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST ORDER THIS PRODUCT?

A: No. Dragonfly systems can only be ordered by O&P or DME providers. If you are a therapist wanting to order the Dragonfly TLSO for a client, contact your preferred O&P or DME provider — or look up a TheraTogs-savvy provider in your area on our website at theratogs.com/providers.

Q: IS THE DRAGONFLY SYSTEMS AVAILABLE AS A LOANER?

A: Due to the customized nature of the TLSO unit, we have not included the Dragonfly in the TheraTogs Loaner Program.


Q: CAN THE DRAGONFLY SPINAL BRACE BE ORDERED SEPARATELY FROM THE SUBSYSTEM?

A: Not at this time.

Q: WHY IS THIS NEW PRODUCT MODEL NAMED THE “DRAGONFLY”?

A: The unique double-wing design of the spinal brace component presents a distinctly dragonfly-like outline. Once we had the pattern design finalized, the name choice suggested itself!

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