

# COSMETIC PROSTHESIS AND WATER

*Learn how to dry your cosmetic leg*

**IF YOU INTEND TO SUBMERGE YOUR PROSTHESIS, WITH ITS PROTECTIVE SILICONE COVER, IN WATER YOU MUST FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW TO AVOID DAMAGING AND PROLONG THE LIFE OF YOUR PROSTHESIS.**

**THESE RULES APPLY TO ANY PROSTHESIS WITH A PROTECTIVE SKIN COVER**

## **BEFORE GOING IN WATER:**

- 1- We recommend using a “water shoe” to help protect the silicone skin from abrasion on rough surfaces and punctures from sharp objects.
- 2- Use a clean, well-fitting silicone suspension sleeve to try and keep water from entering the prosthesis.

Your cosmetic prosthesis has been covered with a high-grade silicone skin as well as an anatomical foam insert. Although the silicone skin is impermeable, water can still sip in through the top and soak the foam insert. When this happens, it is crucial that you allow the water to completely evaporate before stowing your prosthesis away. Failing to do so may result in delamination between the foam insert, the prosthesis and its silicone skin.

## **AFTER GOING IN WATER:**

- 1- Rinse the prosthesis inside and out with clean, fresh water to remove sand, salt, mud and grime. Wipe inside and out with a clean, dry cloth or paper towel.
- 2- Find a well-ventilated area in the shade and place the prosthesis upside-down for about twenty minutes or until water no longer drips out.
- 3- In the same well-ventilated area in the shade, place your prosthesis upside up to allow any remaining water to evaporate out.

**DO NOT** leave your prosthesis inside a car, car trunk, plastic bag or closed spaces, especially under high temperatures! Trapped water condensation can lead to delamination of materials.

If you notice that the silicone skin is separating from the prosthesis contact your prosthetist for further direction. When properly cared for, your prosthesis should provide you with years of enjoyment.

Read the “**WATER LEG PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE**” guide to learn how to protect your prosthetic components against long-term corrosion.

