Aircast cryo cuff instruction sheet

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Aircast cryo cuff manual. Instructions for aircast cryo cuff cooler. Cryo cuff aircast instructions.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION This invention relates to systems used in the application of heat or cold and compression to certain injured portions of the human for applying therapeutic compression and cold or heat to the knee in a safer and more effective manner. BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION The therapeutic value of simultaneous application of cold and compression to an injured body part is widely accepted in the medical community, and the acronym RICE for Rest, Ice, Compression, and Elevation, for the primary treatment of injury to joints and limbs of the body, is practiced routinely. After knee surgery, compression and cold are almost universally applied to control the swelling and the commonly occurring hemarthrosis that causes pain and delays rehabilitation. Even so, in a 1983-84 survey by the Committee on Complications of Arthroscopy Association of North America, as published in The Journal of Arthroscopic and Related Surgery, Vol. 1, No. 4, 1985, pp. 214-220, postoperative hemarthrosis was seen in 23.5% of all arthroscopies and identified as the most frequently occurring complication. Modalities for postoperative cold and compression traditionally have been applied separately--compression most commonly by an elastic bandage wrapped around the knee, and the cold by a superimposed plastic bag filled with ice. While this approach appears simple and economical, it has its own complications. In a 1968 study by Husni, et al., reported in JAMA, Vol. 206, No. 12, Dec. 16, 1968, pp. 2715-2718, it was demonstrated that an ace wrap applied to the knee at a moderate compression of 20 mm hg retards venous circulation and may contribute to thromboembolism. In a 1989 study of various compression dressings, reported in Athletic Training, Winter 1989, pp. 320-323, it was demonstrated that an enormous compression variability existed in the application of an elastic wrap. Four experienced athletic trainers applied wraps to four different ankles four times each. The measured pressures varied from 26 mm to 104 mm hg! While this study was with ankles, it is reasonable to assume that considerable variability must also exist in application of such wraps to the knee. The risks with this form of compression are suggested by Stringer's 1989 study of "Deep Vein Thrombosis After Elective Knee Surgery", as reported in The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, Vol. 71-B, No. 3, May 1989, pp. 492-497. DVT was found in 56% of patients after total knee replacement; in 25% of open menisectomies, and in 4% of arthroscopies. In a 1990 study of "Knee Pressure Dressings and Their Effects on Lower Extremity Venous Capacitance and Venous Outflow", by Normal Mindrebo and K. Donald Shelbourne, publication pending, it was determined that, based on the significant changes in venous outflow and venous capacitance, the routine use of the ace wrap as a postsurgical knee dressing should be discouraged. Numerous other devices have been introduced in recent years for the application of cold and compression, and studies have demonstrated their relative effectiveness. Sloan, et al., in a 1988 study on "Effects of Cold and Compression on Edema", reported in The Physician and Sports Medicine, Vol. 16, No. 8, August 1988, pp. 116-120, showed that a Cryopac[™] sleeve that applied cold at 15°-20° C. in a cuff inflated to 30 mm hg by Freon gas was highly effective in reducing edema. It was reported in 1989 in The American Journal of Sports Medicine. Vol. 17, No. 3, pp. 344-349, that using a Hot Ice Thermal Blanket[™] machine to apply cold continuously at 50° postoperatively to the knee significantly reduced pain medication required by the patients. In 1990 there was reported a similar reduction in pain medication in patients using a DuraKold¹¹ dressing consisting of small cells of ice, analogous to a blister pack, in a nylon web support suitable for wrapping around a body part. A 3K Cryotherapy Compression Bandage from Silipos that includes a U-shaped gel filled cooling element in a sleeve that wraps around the entire knee has also been used. Thus a wide variety of systems have been advanced for the application of cold, and of cold and compression. These include an elastic wrap, the simple ice bag, a freon inflated sleeve, a compression of cold, and of cold and compression. of these or any other known device has addressed the clearly established need for maximizing the compression and cold in the areas of the knee where needed, while minimizing compression in those areas most sensitive to restriction. It is to primary object of the present invention. It is to primary object of the present invention. It is to primary object of the present invention. provide a simple and economical device that applies therapeutic cold and a first level of compression to that limited area of the knee to a second predeterminable amount to minimize the constriction of venous circulation in the lower leg. To achieve this objective, the present invention includes a cuff with a watertight chamber shaped to envelope only the anterior and sides of the knee, including particularly the suprapatellar pouch. These are the areas where posttrauma body fluids accumulate and where cold and compression are most needed. While the cuff is economically fabricated from sheets of flat material, its novel design permits adjustable shaping so as to conform to the knee even when the knee, the straps are secured, but not tightened. Then a first amount of compression is applied to the knee by inflating the cuff to a reasonably predeterminable amount, which causes the chamber to expand. The expansion tensions the straps and applies compression to the areas of the knee under the chamber. As an important element of the invention, the expansion of the cuff from inflation becomes greater in the area above the patella (where swelling is greatest) and the expansion is restricted in the area below the patella (where swelling is less). This causes the distal strap to be tensioned to a lesser degree than the proximal strap. It is well known medically and tests demonstrate that venous flow is far more sensitive to constriction in the region of the distal strap and less sensitive in the thigh under the proximal strap. Thus, by limiting tightening of the knee or in back of the knee and constriction of venous flow is further minimized. The inflation of the cuff can be achieved by either of two means. In the preferred form of the invention, the cuff is strapped in place when empty and is then inflated with ice water which is supplied by a tube from a container that is elevated above the cuff and pressurized by gravity--a method similar to that disclosed as a Gravity Thermal Dilator in U.S. Pat. No. 2,026,747. With this technique the amount of compression is determined by the elevation of the container e.g., --15"=28 mm hg. In an alternative form, the cuff is divided into two coextensive chambers. The inner chamber is filled with ice and water before application to the knee. When the cuff is in place and the straps secure (but not tight), the outer chamber is filled with ice and water before application to the knee. manner somewhat similar to that disclosed in Davis's Thermal Pressure Splint, U.S. Pat. No. 3,548,819. The amount of inflation (and compression on the knee) can then be observed with a pressure indicating device such as that described in commonly assigned copending application Ser. No. 07/502,806, incorporated by reference herein in its entirety, or by the extension bellows type gauge herein disclosed. The unique effectiveness of the present invention in limiting constriction of venous circulation while applying effective compression to the knee can be demonstrated using a technique similar to pneumatic plethysmography. The lower leg is elevated about 12" above the hip, and a pneumatic cuff is fastened around the calf and inflated to a consistent base-line pressure probes are attached to the knee to measure pressure above the patella, under the distal strap and under the distal strap. A compression dressing such as an ace wrap or the dressing of the present invention is applied to the knee and compressed to a predetermined effective level, such as 28 mm hg. If the dressing constricts venous flow the calf will rise. Greater risk. In highly repeatable tests it has been found that when an ace bandage is wrapped on the knee to a pressure of 28 mm hg, the calf will swell by about 20 mm hg above base line. But when the dressing of the present invention is applied as specified and inflated with water to the same pressure at the knee, the calf pressure rises insignificantly, by about 2 or 3 mm hg. Thus, the present invention applies little or no pressure below the knee and no pressure in back of the knee. The reason for this difference can be seen by the pressures measured at the back of the knee under the straps (or at the same location with the ace wrap (and all known devices that envelope the knee). With the ace wrap (and all known devices that envelope the knee) the pressures around the knee are generally uniform. Proximal and distal pressures at the back of the leg are the same as above the patella. With the pressure is significantly lower, typically only 55% or 60% as high as under the proximal strap and there is no pressure on the popliteal area (the back of the knee). In an additional test, a cuff was constructed as a complete cylinder completely enveloping the knee, similar to that disclosed by Cryomed. When inflated with water to the same 28 mm hg pressure at the knee, similar to that disclosed by Cryomed. When inflated with water to the same 28 mm hg pressure at the knee, similar to that disclosed by Cryomed. advantage with the invention developed herein is the ease with which compression can be periodically reduced without removing the dressing or adjusting the straps. With the preferred embodiment, the water from the cuff is routinely recycled back to the cooler for rechilling by lowering the two minutes or so required for rechilling the water, the pressure in the cuff falls to zero. This permits even any minimal pooling of blood that might occur in the veins to be flushed out. Similarly, in the pressure can easily be dropped periodically, without disturbing the straps or rewrapping the dressing, as with conventional devices. The medical effectiveness of earlier version of the present invention through pre-market clinical trails found that hemarthrosis can be minimized, and pain reduced, by early and extended use of this type of compression dressing. The ideal postoperative knee dressing would improve patient comfort, minimize intra-articular hemarthrosis and have a minimal effect on deep vein hemodynamics. Thus, it is an important aspect of the present invention to provide a dressing with a watertight chamber for application of pressure and cold to the knee that covers only about the anterior half of the knee. distal margin, with means for inflating and thereby expanding the dressing so as to apply compression to the knee after the straps are secured without, or with minimal, tensioning. The invention also provides means for relatively restricting the expansion of the distal strap in order to lessen venous constriction. In the preferred embodiment disclosed herein, the restricting means is accomplished by tethering or spot-welding the layers of the dressing watertight chamber in the distal area. Also, in the preferred embodiment, the novel device has a proximal strap that is elastic to further limit distal constriction. The invention includes a closed cycle pressurization means that uses chilled water from an elevated container that is connected by a tube to the watertight chamber of the device. By raising the container below the knee, the water is returned from the device to the container for recooling. Alternatively, a compartment of the device may be inflated with air by a novel pump or by a bulb. The invention is fabricated from sheets of flat material, but the novel design permits adjustable shaping of the invention so as to conform to the knee even when the knee is flexed at different angles. The novel invention also includes a syphon in the closed chilled water system that permits draining the vater from the device for treating an injured knee, comprising means for applying therapeutic cold and compression only to the general area of the suprapatellar pouch and to the general area alongside the knee, means coupled to the general area alongside the knee while simultaneously allowing a predetermined greater compression to be applied to the general area of the suprapatellar pouch, and means for attaching the cold and compression applying means to the knee. The device comprises a fluid impervious chamber of flexible material having an upper transverse portion and depending arms extending from the transverse portion. The transverse portion is adapted to encompass a portion of the thigh above the knee in the general area of the suprapatellar pouch, and the depending arms are adapted to encompass the limb in the areas generally along the sides of the knee while exposing the patella. The chamber is adapted for receiving and containing a thermal fluid for abutting contact with the encompassed portion of the limb. An adjustable length inelastic strap extends under the thigh from one end of the transverse portion to the other end for holding the transverse portion of the suprapatellar area above the knee. An elastic strap extends under the limb from one of the depending arms to the other depending arm to adjust their position with respect to each other while a third adjustable length strap, either elastic or inelastic, extends over the top of the limb from inside of one of the depending arms to the inside of the other being divided into inner and outer compartments, each having an outer wall and a common wall. The inner compartment is adapted for receiving and containing a thermal fluid and can be placed in abutting contact with the encompassed portion of the limb being treated. underlying inner compartment, to minimize sweating of the outer compartment in humid climates and to maintain the shape of the device to encompass the person's limb. Selectively closable means is attached to the outer compartment for permitting a fluid to be introduced therein sufficient to force the inner compartment with its thermal fluid in pressure engagement with the encompassed portion of the inner chamber, resulting in greater compression in the proximal area and less in the distal area. In this manner less venous constriction occurs in the leg below the knee. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS These and other objects of the present like elements and in which: FIG. 1 is a top plan view of the preferred embodiment of the novel pressure cuff; FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view of an alternate embodiment of the novel pressure cuff; FIG. 3 is a top plan view of the pressure cuff; FIG. 3 is a top plan view of the pressure cuff; FIG. 3 is a top plan view of the pressure cuff; FIG. 4 is a bottom plan view of the pressure cuff; FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view of the embodiment of the thermal compress shown in FIG. 3 along the line 5--5 illustrating spot welding to hold the wall of the inner compartment together in predetermined areas; FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional view of an alternate embodiment of the thermal compress at the same section as 5--5 and illustrating tethers that hold the walls of the inner compartment in spaced relationship; FIG. 7 is a diagrammatic representation of the novel pressure cuff placed about the knee with one form of air pump attached thereto; FIG. 8 is a view of the novel thermal compress placed on a flexed knee with the air pump attached thereto and folded after the compress has been inflated; FIG. 10 is a side view of the compress quick disconnect after being disconnected from the air pump hose; FIG. 12 is a top view of one embodiment of the portable air pump used to pressurize the thermal cuff; and FIG. 13 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump that may be used to pressurize the thermal cuff; FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump that may be used to pressurize the thermal cuff; FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of the air pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump that may be used to pressurize the thermal cuff; FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along lines 13--13 of FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of a bulb-type pump taken along the pressure gauge in its various positions to indicate pressure in the thermal cuff compartments. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS While the novel thermal compress of the present invention can be used to apply cold or hot temperatures to the human body, it will be described herein with respect to providing a cold temperature where its greatest use is anticipated. As can be seen in FIG. 1 and FIG. 2, the preferred embodiment of the novel thermal compress device or cuff, designated generally by the numeral 10, is designed to be applied to the knee of the leg of an individual. The cuff 10 has an upper transverse portion 12 and lower depending arms 13 and 14 extending from the upper portion 12. The cuff 10 can be wrapped about the knee cap or patella as will be shown hereafter. In this way, the pressure and temperature are not applied to the patella or kneecap of the person wearing the compress. A proximal strap 20 and a distal strap 22 are attached to thermal compress cuff 10 at tabs or wings 21 and 23, respectively, on arm 14. Strap 20 is made of any well-known as Velcro. Strap 20 is made of a relatively inelastic material. Straps 20 and 22 are arranged for attaching relationship with mating Velcro strips 32 and 34 mounted on opposing tabs or wings 31 and 33, respectively, on arm 13 of thermal compress cuff 10. Further, the straps 20 and 22 have resilient foam attachments 28 and 30 attached respectively thereto for the purpose of providing a cushion for the underside of the person's leg to which the thermal compress cuff 10 is attached. A neck 25 has a closable opening 26 therein for admitting the cold liquid to the interior of the cuff 10. It will be noted that the cuff 10. It will be noted that the cuff 10 is bifurcated beginning with opening 18, thus separating depending arms 13 and 14. This permits adjustment for knee angle and width. The gap between the arms 13 and 14 includes a truncated triangular gap 19. The gap 19 changes the profile of the applied cuff 10 from flat to conical for better conformation of the arms 13 and 14 to the leg when the knee is in the flexed position. Velcro fastener 34 and elastic strap 22 connect the arms 13 and 14 to get the arms 13 and 14 to get the arms 13 and 14 to the leg when the knee is in the flexed position. 13 and 14 together over the top of the leg. Thus the upper (proximal) and lower (distal) straps 20 and 22 are placed so as to avoid the popliteal area of the knee and minimize construction thereof. This construction permits bending adjustment of the cuff for different degrees of flexation of the knee from full extension to about 30°. The arms 13 and 14 could be fixed permanently to each other with flexible connectors without providing for adjustment if desired. The use of the leg below the knee and thus minimizes venous constriction below the knee which is desirable during treatment of the knee by use of the cuff 10. FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the novel cuff. As can be seen in FIG. 2, the device 10 includes a fluid impervious chamber formed so as to be divided into inner and outer wall 52 and compartments 42 and 44, respectively. Compartments 42 and 44, respectively.

44 has a common inner wall 56. The inner compartment 42 is adapted for receiving and containing the thermal fluid in a desired temperature range in generally uniform and abutting contact via wall 52 with the encompassed portion of the leg being treated. A Y-shaped internal syphon having tubes 27 and 29 connects to neck 25 and closable opening 26 for filling and draining the fluid from inner compartment 42. Draining is important for rechilling the fluid warmed during extended therapy. Tubes 27 and 29 are formed of a material such as plastic and are approximately 5/16" on the inside diameter. They extend from the fill opening 26 to the distal end of each of the arms 13 and 14 as shown in phantom lines in FIG. 1. Thus, even though the fill port 26 is at the top of the compress, all of the fluid can be completely drained from the bottom. An open-cell urethane foam material 46 approximately 0.30" thick that will compress to about half its normal thickness under a 1 psi load is suitable for use in outer compartment 44 for insulating the underlying inner compartment 42, for minimizing sweating of the outer compartment 44 and for maintaining the shape of the cuff 10 while encompassing the person's leg. When the cuff 10 is used, the proximal strap 20 and distal strap 22 secure the cuff to the leg snugly but not tightly as described earlier. The cuff may be pressurized with a fluid from an elevated container, has a lid 84 and a handle 85 and is a fluid such as ice and water sufficient for six to eight hours of cryotherapy. The cooler 88, if a rigid container, has a lid 84 and a handle 85 and is coupled by a hose 90 to the connection 26 on the cuff 10. After the cuff 10. After the cuff 10. After the cuff 10. Compression of the limb, due to the gravity flow of the ice water, is proportional to the elevation of the cooler 88 with respect to the cuff 10. A manually operated valve 92 allows the flow of ice water to be stopped when the desired pressure is reached by manually closing the cycle. The cooler is lowered below the leg and the valve 92 is opened. The water with the ice, the cooler 88 is again elevated and the cuff-filling process repeated. Thus, a closed chilled water system is used and the water is recirculated between the container and the cuff in the closed system to maintain the water at the desired temperature. As pointed out previously, it will be noted in FIG. 1 that the Y-shaped internal syphon tubes 27 and 29 extend to the distal areas of the inner compartment 42 of arms 13 and 14, thus either draining the warm water from or filling the compartment with cold water as set forth above. When filling the inner compartment 42, it expands the cuff 10, compresses the limb 16 and tightens the straps 20 and 22. Normally, the cuff 10 would expand uniformly and both straps would be similarly tensioned around the upper and lower limb. Because most of the swelling after knee, it is medically desirable to have more cold and compression in the proximal area above the patella and less in the distal area covered by the arms 13 and 14. Additionally, the risk of undesirable constriction is greater under the distal area, the present invention includes means to restrict the amount of expansion of the fluid compartment in the distal area of the cuff or compress 10 but not in the proximal area. This causes more fluid to remain in the upper area 12 and 14. This results in less tightening of the lower strap 22. This novel result is accomplished by both placing an elastic strap 22 below the knee, as indicated previously, and also by holding the two walls 52 and 56 of the distal portion of compartment 42 in fixed relationship to each other so as to constrict expansion of the chamber 42 in the depending arms 13 and 14. The simplest and preferred manner of a quilt, as illustrated. (See FIGS. 2 & 5). An alternative is to weld a short tethering strap 57' to each internal surface 52 and 56 as shown in FIG. 6, to permit some but limited expansion in the immediate area. Tests show that pressure under the distal strap 22 is reduced by about a third by this dual technique of an elastic strap and restricted expansion of the chamber. In the preferred embodiment, the outer compartment 44 contains foam 46 that overlies the thermal fluid-filled compartment 42. The foam-filled outer compartment 42, thereby maintaining the cold temperature for a longer period of time while preventing sweating of the cuff upper surface 54. Second, it maintains the shape of the cuff 10 while permitting conformation of the device under a 1 psi load. In another embodiment, external compression is used to cause the outer wall 52 of the cold fluid compartment 42 to more uniformly engage the body area being treated. This is accomplished by applying a pressurized fluid such as air through a selectively closable opening 40 (as shown in FIG. 3) is attached to the outer compartment 44 for permitting pressurized fluid such as air to be introduced therein sufficient to force the inner compassed portion of the leg. This increases the pressure in the foam-filled chamber 44. One form of a pump that may be coupled to orifice 40 for applying the supplemental pressure is illustrated in FIGS. 8, 9, 12 and 13. The pump is designated generally by the numeral 58. It has a rectangular body portion 60 to carry the compressed air to opening 40 in the outer compartment or chamber 44 of the inflatable cuff. The unit may be folded about center section 66 and Velcro strap 59 wrapped around the open end of the pump 58. A cross section of the novel pump is shown in FIG. 13. The pump 58 is actually an air foam cell that is approximately six inches long and two inches wide and has strap 59 attached therewith with the Velcro strip 61 thereon. The lower portion 72 is an air impervious resilient material such as plastic layers. Plastic layers 74 and 76 are separated from each other by a small gap 78. A cellular foam layer 80 has a portion removed to form an indentation. An outer pliable surface 82 such as this plastic is placed over the foam 80 and sealed to the lower plastic surface 72 to form an airtight compartment. Hose 62 communicates with the inside of the airtight compartment. When the air cell is folded about separation 78 and orifice 64 into the cuff 10 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is folded about separation 78 and orifice 64 into the cuff 10 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is forced out via tube 62 and orifice 64 into the cuff 10 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is forced out via tube 62 and orifice 64 into the cuff 10 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is folded about separation 78 and indentation 66 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is folded about separation 78 and indentation 66 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is folded about separation 78 and indentation 66 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is folded about separation 78 and indentation 66 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is folded about separation 78 and indentation 66 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is folded about separation 78 and indentation 66 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is folded about separation 78 and indentation 66 as shown in FIGS. 8 and 9, the entrapped air in the cell is folded about separation 78 and 9. 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The hose 62 can then again be coupled to the cuff 10 to add additional air as needed when the air cell 58 is again folded. Alternatively, a one-way valve may be coupled to the cell to allow air in but not out. Thus, the hose 62 would not have to be disconnected from the orifice 64. Typically, with the cuff 10 used as illustrated in FIGS. 8 and 9, only one pressurization cycle of the pump 58 is required to sufficiently pressurize the cuff 10. When the pump 58 is not in use, it may be disconnected from the cuff 10 and folded as illustrated in FIG. 9 with the strap 59 passing around the open end of the pump in the closed shape as shown. Alternatively, for more variability of pressurization, a bulb 63, as shown in FIG. 14 and well known in the art, may be used to pressurize the outer compartment 44. The end 65 of bulb 63 may be inserted in a hose such as hose 62 or directly in connector orifice 40 to pressurize outer compartment 44. FIG. 15 is a cross-sectional view of the novel cuff in which a gauge means housing 100 has been placed to indicate the pressure in the outer compartment 44 so as to prevent over inflation. The gauge means housing 100 may include an expandable bellows 102 such as shown in FIG. 16A (where it is entirely compressed) in communication with chamber 44 via aperture 101. The bellows 102 such as a spring 104. As pressure is increased in the outer compartment 44, the bellows 102 begins to expand against the force of spring 104 and protrudes from the housing 100 as illustrated in FIG. 16B. As pressure in compartment 44 continues to increase, the bellows 102 begins to expand against the force of spring 104 and protrudes from the housing 100 as illustrated in FIG. 16B. As pressure in compartment 44 continues to increase, the bellows 102 begins to expand against the force of spring 104 and protrudes from the housing 100 as illustrated in FIG. 16B. As pressure in compartment 44 continues to increase, the bellows 102 begins to expand against the force of spring 104 and protrudes from the housing 100 as illustrated in FIG. 16B. As pressure in compartment 44 continues to increase, the bellows 102 begins to expand against the force of spring 104 and protrudes from the housing 100 as illustrated in FIG. 16B. As pressure in compartment 44 continues to increase, the bellows 102 begins to expand against the force of spring 104 and protrudes from the housing 100 as illustrated in FIG. 16B. As pressure is increased in the outer compartment 44 continues to increase form the housing 100 as illustrated in FIG. 16B. As pressure in compartment 44 continues to increase form the housing 100 as illustrated in FIG. 16B. As pressure is increased in the outer compartment 44 continues to increase form the housing 100 as illustrated in FIG. 16B. 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The chamber is divided into inner and outer compartments each having an outer wall and a common wall. The inner compartment is adapted for receiving and containing a thermal fluid and is in abutting contact with the encompassed portion of the person's knee. An opening is formed in the inner compartment for receiving a thermal fluid is under pressure and pressurizes the inner compartment to an amount corresponding to the height of the container above the knee. Open-cell urethane foam in the outer compartment insulates the underlying inner compartment in humid climates. It also maintains the shape of the device while permitting conformation of the device while selectively closable opening is attached to the outer compartment for permitting pressurized fluid in pressurized fluid in pressure engagement with the encompassed portion of the knee. Means for restricting expansion of the cavity in the distal area of the arms is provided to cause a greater amount of thermal fluid to remain in the provided to pressurize the cuff as needed. In keeping with the foregoing, it will be understood that, for example, the container 88 (FIG. 7), may be connected directly to neck 25 (FIG. 1) via a guick disconnect such as the type made by Colder Fittings (Model Nos. PLCD 170-06 & PLCD 220-06). It also should be understood that neck 25 and opening 26 may be made large enough to permit the direct introduction of ice cubes and water in lieu of a separate container 88. Similarly, the outer compartment 44 may be inflated orally by a tube connected to orifice 40. While the invention has been shown and described with respect to a particular embodiment thereof, this is for the purpose of illustrations and modifications of the specific embodiment thereof. spirit and scope of the invention. Accordingly, the patent is not to be limited in scope and effect to the specific embodiment shown and described nor in any other way that is inconsistent with the extent to which the progress in the art has been advanced by the invention.

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