

FDI France MEDICAL

USER MANUAL

WALKING STICK: SOFT STEP



Medical Device





IMPORTANT: Before using this product, read this manual and save for future reference.

User: If you are unable to read or understand the warnings, cautions, or instructions contact a healthcare professional or dealer before attempting to use this equipment otherwise injury or damage may occur.

Consult your physician or healthcare specialist before using any type of mobility device. He will advise and inform you about the most appropriate way of walking, climbing stairs, getting up from a chair or sitting down with a walking stick.

Dealer: This manual must be given to the user of the product.

1. SYMBOLS ON THE LABEL OR IN THE USER MANUAL

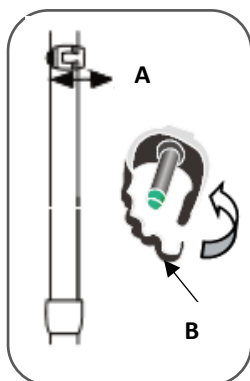
	Address of the manufacturer	Max. 100Kg	Weight limitation
	Date of manufacture		Invitation to consult the user manual
LOT	Batch number		Respect the safety instruction
REF	Product reference	CE	CE Conformity

2. INTENDED USE

This walking stick is a walking aid device. This product is designed for individuals **weighing maximum 130kg** with limited walking ability. Do not use for any other purpose than walking assistance. This product can be used for both indoor and outdoor.

3. USER MANUAL

3.1 Height adjustment



- Open the safety clip on the locking device for dimensional adjustment (picture B); push the locking device outwards using your both thumbs (picture A).
- Regulate the height of the walking stick by sliding the lower tube in or out the higher tube as necessary.
- Once the right height is found, insert the locking device: the two holes of the outer and inner tube have to coincide.
- Close the safety clip of the locking device.
- ⚠ Before putting your full weight on the adjusted walking stick, make sure the locking device is inserted and secured properly by putting gradually your weight on the walking stick.

⚠ A walking stick must be adjusted according the height of the user. When measuring the length of stick, the user must be in standing up and right position, the tip of the stick is placed about 15 cm lateral to the foot and the arm flexed at 30° approximately. A poor adjustment can reduce the walking stick performances. In case of doubt, ask an advice to your physician or healthcare professional.

3.2 Getting started with the walking stick



- For a safe walk, please hold the walking stick as specified on the pictures on the left.

Before any use always insure:


- Locking device is correctly inserted and secured (closed locking lug).
- Base/Ferrule must be in a perfect condition. If it worn out, the base must be replaced immediately.
- If any damage is found, DO NOT use the product. Otherwise injury may occur. Consult with your healthcare professional.

4. PRECAUTIONS OF USE

 Failure to comply with the precautions of use may result a serious injury.

- When being used:
 - Firmly hold the handle.
 - Keep the walking stick as vertical as possible.
 - The walking stick is designed to support the user's weight and should always be used with a short lengthening of the strides.
- Maximum static weight the walking stick can take is 130 kg; user must never weigh more.
- **Be especially cautious when using walking stick on rugs, wet, snowy or any potentially slippery (leaves, sand, gravel) surfaces. Do not use on ice-covered surfaces.**
- **Pay attention to possible groove or depression on the road because the stick may be caught.**
- While using stair, use a stair ramp with your spare hand. The assistance of a third-party person is strongly recommended.
- In case of fall, let the walking stick fall aside and do not hold on to it.
- Never hang bags or any other object on the walking stick.
- The locking device is not designed to be taken off and put back on repeatedly and unnecessarily. This may weaken the locking tab and even cause it to break off.
- Never modify the walking stick, they have been designed to ensure your security. For the same reasons, only use manufacturer replacement parts.
- Walking stick is exclusively for a walk assistance use. Never use it for any other purpose such as tractions or as a lever...

5. CARE AND MAINTENANCE

 The lack of care and maintenance of your walking stick SOFT STEP may cause injury.

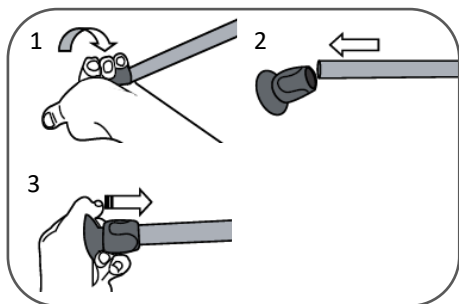
- Regular cleaning of walking stick is recommended, specially grips (handle) or base (ferrule) must be cleaned with clear water. Wipe all surfaces with a damp soft cloth and allow all surfaces to dry before use. Do not use any abrasive product, cleaning product, chemical product, greasy product that could make them slippery or any product that contain bleach.
- All parts of walking stick must be very regularly controlled; for your security we recommend control every 6 months by a healthcare professional. Regular inspection of parts including hardware, brackets and plastics for deformation, corrosion, breakage, wear or compression.
- Control the worn state or the cracking of following pieces: base (ferrule), grip, locking device. It is important to check regularly the condition of the walking stick base: depending on the surface on which the walking sticks are used, the bases will wear out more or less quickly.

- In order to ensure a safety and continuous use, worn parts or cracking parts (base (ferrule), locking device) must be replaced immediately. Exclusively use manufacturer spare parts. You could get the spare parts from your pharmacist or dealer.
- Must not modify this product other than by replacing worn parts.
- In case of non-use for an extended period, we recommend a new control by a healthcare professional before any new use.

Your specialist is the only one authorized to perform maintenance on your walking stick.

6. REPLACEMENT OF USED PARTS

6.1 Replacement of base / ferrule



- Remove the old base: hold the walking stick firmly in one hand, and remove the base with the other hand by turning it off the walking stick (1 and 2).
- Push the new base with your hand onto the walking stick (3).
- ⚠ Place the walking stick on the floor and gradually bring your full weight on the walking stick until the walking stick has reached the bottom of the base.
- ⚠ Before using the walking stick, make sure that the base is correctly inserted.

6.2 Replacement of locking device for dimensional adjustment



- Refer to “Section 3 User Manual / Height adjustment” for detailed procedure.

7. LOAN

⚠ Walking stick is a personal object and is specifically adjusted to an individual. Risk of Injury, must not share your walking stick.

8. STORAGE

⚠ Failure to comply with storage conditions may result in damage of walking stick and thus risk of injury.

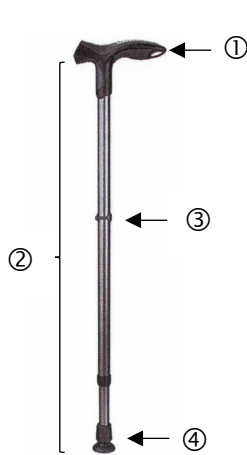
- Do not store the product in directly exposed to a source of extreme heat (for example behind a window or near a radiator) or cold places.
- If hand grips are exposed to extreme temperature (above 37°C or below 0°C), high humidity and/or becomes wet, prior to use, ensure hand grip does not twist, otherwise damage or injury may occur. Before use, ensure that all device is tightened securely and dry the humid parts.
- If exposed to extreme temperature, above 41°C, the walking stick will be hot and first-degree burns may occur. Allow the walking stick to cool before using.
- Keep away from any source of ignition and flame.
- Follow the storage conditions of walking stick as below:
 - Keep it in a dry place between 5°C and 41°C.
 - The relative humidity of the air should be between 30% and 70%.
 - Protect your walking stick against the dust, corrosion (abrasive elements, sand, sea water, salt air) or greasy environment by packaging them.

9. DISPOSAL

Our walking sticks are made of aluminium tubes and plastic parts: these materials are inert, non-toxic and non-biodegradable. For their disposal these products are considered as domestic waste, and your local regulations in this regard have to be respected. Please be environmentally responsible and recycle this product through your recycling facility at its end of life.

10. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Make sure that the label on a walking stick stays always legible. Replace it if necessary after a demand to your dealer.



①	Grip
②	Height of the grip
③	Locking device
④	Base/Ferrule

MODEL	SOFT STEP
Height of the grip (min.– max.)	780 - 1070 mm
Support height adjustment	14 positions, 25 mm apart
Weight per walking stick	360 g
Maximum user weight	Max. 130 kg
SPARE PARTS	
Locking device	
Base/Ferrule	
ACCESSORIES	
TRIPOD	
Wrist strap	

11. LIFE EXPECTANCY

Life expectancy of the walking stick is influenced by their using conditions and stocking, as well as by their regular care and maintenance. Your walking stick stays in a perfect condition if you follow imperatively the information provided this user manual.

12. WARRANTY

This product has a warranty of 24 months counting of the purchase date of user against manufacturing latent defects. Please, keep the proof of purchase. This warranty does not cover a normal wear and tear of the walking stick especially parts exposed to wear (bases, locking device), the consequences of inappropriate or incorrect use, damaging or poor maintenance due to non-observance of user manual.

13. SERIOUS INJURIES NOTIFICATION

Any serious injury related with medical device must be notified to us as well as to a competent authority of your country.



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These products are Class I Medical Devices according to the EU regulation 2017/745, and are in full compliance with the European and NF EN standard 1985.