

## Laundering & Maintenance Guidelines

### Wash Cycle /Temperature



Alpha Modalities LLC sling, vest and transfer products are all machine washable.

Normal Wash Cycle is strongly recommended for AM LLC products to prolong fabric longevity and decrease product seam wear. If possible, AM LLC slings should be washed separately in smaller wash unit in groups to ensure that this recommendation is met.

Textile manufacturer recommendations fall within the CDC hot-water laundry cycle limit guidelines<sup>1</sup>:

$$\leq 160^{\circ}\text{F}(\leq 71^{\circ}\text{C}) \text{ for } \leq 25 \text{ minutes}$$

In addition, this temperature limit also applies to the closed-cell polyurethane foam used as padding in many of the AM LLC products. Overheating of this padding may cause it to shrink, wrinkle or ripple. While these structural changes do not affect textile strength or patient safety, they may affect patient comfort and caregiver product handling.

In sum, following wash cycle heat limits established by CDC Guidelines<sup>1</sup> will extend the lifetime and structural integrity of AM LLC products.

### Laundering and Disinfection Chemical Choice



Laundry detergents, regardless of their chemical composition or mechanism of action, are not known to have any harmful effects on AM LLC slings, vests and transfer accessories.

We do not recommend the use Chlorine Bleach and Hydrogen Peroxide (an Oxygen based Bleach) on AM LLC products. These two disinfectants are known to accelerate deterioration of many textile materials, especially in concentrations greater than 200 parts per million. This deleterious effect is significantly enhanced by heat.

Instead, we recommend the use of Ozone Laundry Systems (i.e. Peracetic Acid) on AM LLC products per CDC disinfection guidelines.<sup>1</sup> They significantly reduce textile deterioration thus prolonging product life. They require lower temperatures, less water consumption, shorter drying cycles. They also reduce operational costs and

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/guidelines/Disinfection\\_Nov\\_2008.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/guidelines/Disinfection_Nov_2008.pdf)


environmental impact, while achieving a wide spectrum germicidal rate at low concentration levels.

**Drying** 

We recommend using Low Heat/ No Heat tumble drying cycles for AM LLC slings, vests and transfer products whenever possible.

If not possible, it is recommended that the drying temperature be limited to 160° F. Anything higher than 160° F will cause the the closed cell foam in our slings and vests to shrink, wrinkle or ripple.

Drip drying is also acceptable for all AM LLC products. Wringing is not recommended, especially in products that have piping or padding.

**Ironing** 

Ironing is not recommended for any of the AM LLC slings, vests or transfer products.

**Dry Cleaning** 

Dry Cleaning is allowed for all AM LLC slings, vests and transfer products.

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/guidelines/Disinfection\\_Nov\\_2008.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/guidelines/Disinfection_Nov_2008.pdf)