## Jaw Saver™ Distraction Head Harness

## **Usage Instructions**

The Jaw Saver™ provides an alternative for patients who have pain from head harnesses that pull up on the jaw. The Jaw Saver™ pulls up on the orbital ridge and external occipital protuberance (EOP). The chin strap is for safety only and does not put any pressure on the jaw.

- Step 1: Have patient remove eye glasses, hearing aids and anything else as necessary for safety. For example, remove or adjust ear and/or eyebrow rings/studs.
- Step 2: Place the back of the Jaw Saver<sup>™</sup> around the back of the head snugly under EOP, wrap the Jaw Saver<sup>™</sup> tightly around to the front of the head at or slightly below the orbital ridge and close the fastener. The placement of the 1" straps, with the D rings, should be even on both sides of the head and at or in between the ear and temple. Adjust as necessary.
  - Tip: Sometimes when applying or adjusting the Jaw Saver™
    a patient's ears get crumpled. Have the patient gently pull
    their ear lobe and that usually helps. Make other
    adjustments as necessary.
- Step 3: Pull up on the 1" straps to ensure a secure fit and that it will not slip off the patients head, then hook the weighted crossbar to the two D rings and slowly allow the weight to pull up on the Jaw Saver™, watching to make sure the Jaw Saver™ does not slip off the patient's head.
  - Tip: Sometimes the patient will feel uncomfortable pressure on the forehead. Slightly adjusting the strap around the forehead up or down will usually alleviate any discomfort.
- Step 4: Close the fastener of the chin safety strap.
  - Tip: Close chin safety strap after load is applied, if chin safety strap is closed before applying the load, it can apply significant pressure to the patient's jaw.
- Step 5: To remove the Jaw Saver™, pull down on weighted crossbar to relieve the weight, then unhook the crossbar from the D rings, then open the fasteners and remove from the patient's head.



Step 2 Place Jaw Saver™



Step 3 Add weight



Step 4 Close chin strap

- Tip: Opening the hook and loop fastener while in place around the patient's ears creates a very loud sound. After traction is done and the load is removed, carefully pull the Jaw Saver™ down below the ears then open the fastener.
- As with similar orthotics, capillary bed restriction produces temporary numbness typically seen after about 10 minutes of use.
- Jaw Saver™ may not be appropriate for people with less prominent occipital ridge or external occipital protuberance.
- Coming soon / currently in development: smaller size and/or adjustable size for patients with smaller head circumference.

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