

Preface

The fabrication of splints to treat patients with burn injuries is centuries old. Since the use of wood platforms with cowhide attachments, several different materials, mostly some type of metal, have been used in the making of burn splints. The splints described in this *Atlas and Compendium* date from the late 1960's and early 1970's when thermoplastic splinting material most commonly used today became available. The contents of this publication stem from an in-depth review of the English burn literature to uncover every splint that has ever been described or mentioned in the treatment of burn injuries since that time. In this first edition, you will find 91 splints described. No splint was found in the literature to treat the forearm so that Section is blank. We apologize to any author whose splint was inadvertently overlooked.

One intent of the Editors is to give clinicians ready access to a single resource regarding burn splints in order to assist readers in avoiding the tedious and time consuming task of having to research the literature for a particular splint idea to treat a patient. The *Atlas* also can be used as a resource to stimulate therapists to generate new ideas or improvements to a published splint. Another purpose of the *Atlas and Compendium* is to function as a historical document. We'd like to recognize the knowledge and talent of those clinicians who've lead the way to where we are today and thus, give credit where credit is due. Oftentimes interventions are used that were learned through education without knowing or recognizing the origin of the information. Therefore, you will notice that splints in each section are arranged by date of first appearance in the literature from the earliest described to the most recent. The first splint in each of the sections is the first splint found in the literature to treat that specific area or anatomical location, thereby recognizing the originator of each splint idea and listed as the Primary reference. Please note and forgive us that the quality of some photographs is less than optimal. The reason for the condition of some photographs is because we were unable to secure the original photograph. The reader needs to remember that, in many instances, the ability to photograph and publish splints in the past pales in comparison to present-day technology.

The Editors of this Atlas were assembled because of their knowledge and experience in the field of burn rehabilitation and splinting in particular. You will note that several of the splints contained herein were first published by some of the Editors lending credence to them as authorities. We are pleased to have Elizabeth Rivers write the Foreword to our publication. Liz is known mostly for her contributions to burn rehabilitation. But, she was a nurse as well so many of her contributions to burn care came from a ‘dual eye.’ Liz’s best known contribution was probably her pioneering development of the clear face mask.

The *Atlas and Compendium* is organized in a ‘head to toe’ format. As a first attempt, a decision was made to include only those splints that can be readily made by therapists with materials most commonly found in a department setting. If directions were included in the original article, then the fabrication instructions are from that source as well. In some instances, the skilled clinicians who contributed to this publication were able to recreate splints and have provided directions as to how they fabricated the specific splint. Therapists who use the *Atlas* may have their own preferred method for making splints and these variations are perfectly acceptable.

We hope that you find this *Atlas and Compendium* helpful and useful in your practice to provide the most optimal care and treatment for patients with burn injuries. We encourage all of you to continue to create new and effective splint designs. Our goal is that this publication will forever be a ‘work in progress’ so that, in the future, other talented therapists may have their splints included as part of this work.

Sincerest best wishes for success in your rehabilitation efforts.

The Editors

Atlas and Compendium of Burn Splints

ORDER FORM

Please send _____ *Atlas and Compendium of Burn Splints* to:

Name: _____ (Please Print Clearly or Type)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ (W) Telephone: _____ (H) Telephone: _____ (Cell)

Email address: _____

Cost: \$59.00 U.S. (Canada \$64.00) for each *Atlas* (includes postage and mailing)

Please send a cashiers check, money order, or institutional check made payable to:

**SPLINT ATLAS
13614 Hercules Lane
Universal City, TX 78148**

**Please allow 4- 6 weeks for delivery.
Any questions, telephone (210) 781 - 9018**