

HALO VEST ASSEMBLY

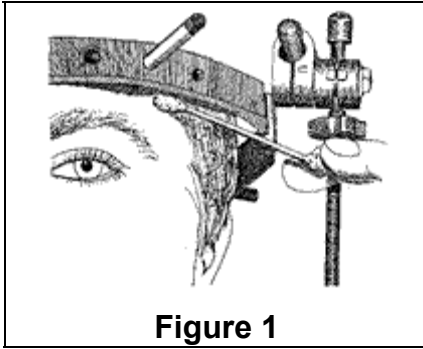


Figure 1

Pin Care: Area of skin penetration by the skull pins should be cleaned daily with hydrogen peroxide or soap and water. Any crust or drainage should be removed and the skin moved gently to insure that there is no adhesion of the skin to the pin or the underlying tissue (Fig. 1). Iodine containing ointment is **not** recommended for daily use as some patients develop sensitivity on repeated exposure and the ointment also prevents drainage of the pin wound. Antibiotic ointments should be used only if the pin wound shows signs of active infection that are confirmed by laboratory testing. An inflamed pin site, patient complaints of pin site pain, noises or movement usually indicate a loose pin and should be brought to the physician's attention so that the pin can be tightened.

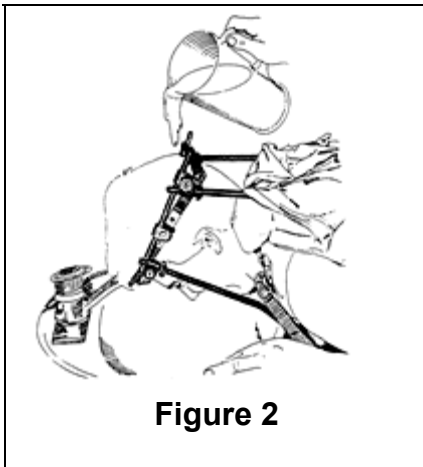


Figure 2

Shampooing Hair: Before attempting to shampoo hair, it is necessary to prevent water from flowing down into the neckline of the vest by damming the area with towels. Patients should shampoo their hair with the help of an assistant. The procedure requires that the patient position his head over the kitchen sink or bathtub and rinse with a flexible hose sprayer or having an assistant pour water over the patient's head (Fig. 2). Alternatively, if the patient is too unstable to lean over a sink, he may lie down on his back with his head suspended over a basin.

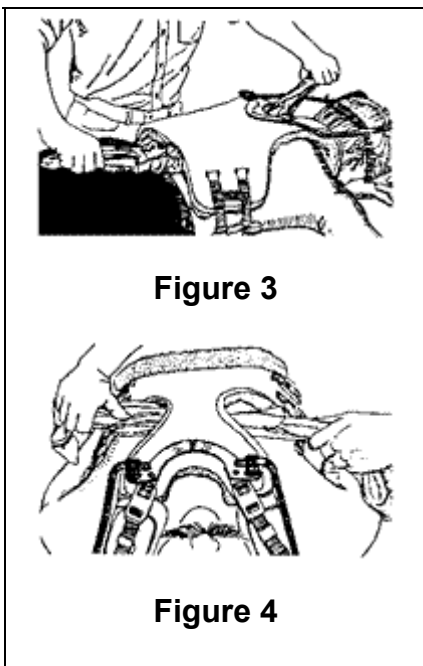


Figure 3

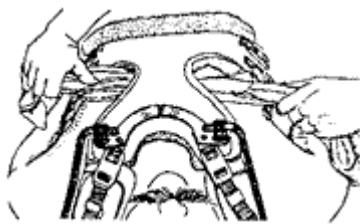


Figure 4

Skin Care: Showering is impossible to do so without getting the vest liner wet. Instead, a towel moistened with rubbing alcohol should be passed in a drying motion beneath both the front and back portions of the vest. (Figs. 3 and 4). Do not release the straps to perform skin care since the spinal alignment could be altered by doing so.

No soap, lotion or powder should be used under the vest!

Inspect: Care must be taken to prevent pressure sores under the vest. Points of danger are the scapulae and the tips of the vertebral processes. For patients who are insensate in any area covered by the vest, inspection under the vest should be carried out with a flashlight on a daily basis without loosening any straps or hardware.

Follow-up: If your vest becomes loose or seems to be causing a pressure sore, contact:

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CPO Seattle (206) 328-4CPO
CPO Bellevue (425) 454-4CPO
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