



APLS Thermal Guard

APLSV-3391H/3-2

NSN: 6530-01-562-6008

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Product Description:

The APLS Thermal Guard is a portable and disposable absorbent litter designed to provide maximum thermal protection during emergency transport. This product offers an integrated system for enhanced patient care, featuring a highly absorbent cellulose core that wicks fluids away from the patient, a fleece-lined bag with a detachable hood to retain body heat, and a treated nylon backing to protect against wind and moisture. The APLS Thermal Guard includes two closable "L" shaped access points for medical treatment while maintaining warmth and optional internal pockets that create "heat zones" in four key areas when used with a mobile heat source. The litter can retain up to 4.5 liters of bodily fluid and safely supports up to 450 pounds. It also includes two pockets inside the bag for storing patient documents, x-ray disks, and personal effects.

Product Features:

- **Thermal Protection:** Built-in thermal properties for warmth during transport
- **Fluid Containment:** Holds up to 4.5 liters of blood and bodily fluid
- **Leak Proof:** Nylon backing prevents fluid leakage and protects against wind and moisture
- **Access Points:** Closable "L" shaped access points for patient treatment while retaining heat
- **Transport:** Eight handles for easy transport; bottom straps secure the litter to stretchers or other transport devices
- **Storage:** Includes a locker for patient documents and personal effects
- **Detachable Hood:** Provides additional protection and warmth for the patient's head
- **Durability:** Lightweight, rugged, and strong, supporting 420 - 450 lbs. (190.51 - 204.12 kg) wet or dry
- **Packaging:** Compressed and vacuum-packed for easy storage and portability

Intended Use:

The APLS Thermal Guard is intended for use by emergency personnel, first responders, and other trained individuals to safely transport and treat patients while providing thermal protection, moisture resistance, and fluid absorption in emergency situations.



Precautions:

- **For Professional Use Only:** The APLS Thermal Guard should be used by trained personnel familiar with emergency transport and patient care procedures.
- **Single Use Only:** The litter is designed for single use. Reuse may compromise its structural integrity and absorbency, increasing the risk to the patient.
- **Weight Limit:** Do not exceed the weight limit of 450 pounds (204.12 kg). Overloading may result in failure and injury.
- **Avoid Sharp Objects:** Ensure that sharp objects do not puncture or tear the nylon backing, fleece panels, or absorbent core, as this could reduce the effectiveness of the product.

Instructions for Use:

1. Preparation:

- Inspect the vacuum-sealed packaging for any signs of damage before use. If the packaging is compromised, do not use the product and obtain a replacement.
- Ensure that the area around the injured person is safe and stable before attempting to deploy the APLS Thermal Guard.

2. Deployment:

- Carefully open the vacuum-sealed packaging, taking care not to damage the litter inside.
- Unfold the APLS Thermal Guard completely and lay it flat on the ground, with the treated nylon backing in contact with the surface to protect against wind and moisture.

3. Patient Placement:

- Position the patient onto the APLS Thermal Guard, ensuring that their body is centered on the litter. If the patient is conscious, instruct them to remain as still as possible during the transfer.
- Attach the detachable hood over the patient's head, ensuring it is properly secured to retain body heat.

4. Securing the Patient:

- Use the eight reinforced handles to lift and carry the patient. Distribute the weight evenly among the rescuers to prevent strain and ensure stable and controlled movement.
- Utilize the bottom straps to secure the APLS Thermal Guard to a stretcher or litter if additional stabilization is needed during transport.

5. Medical Access and Thermal Zones:

- If medical treatment is required during transport, use the two closable "L" shaped access points to reach the patient while retaining body heat.
- For added thermal protection, insert a mobile heat source into the optional internal pockets to create "heat zones" in four key areas.



6. Fluid Management:

- The highly absorbent core of the APLS Thermal Guard will automatically wick fluids away from the patient during transport. Monitor the litter for signs of saturation.
- If the litter becomes saturated or if fluids are observed leaking from the edges, prioritize quick transport to a medical facility where the patient can be transferred to a dry surface.

7. Document Management:

- Store patient documents, x-ray disks, or personal effects in the designated pockets inside the APLS Thermal Guard to keep them secure and accessible.

8. Post-Use Disposal:

- After the patient has been safely transferred to a medical facility, carefully remove the APLS Thermal Guard.
- Dispose of the used litter according to local medical waste disposal regulations. The product is not designed for reuse.

Additional Notes:

- **Training:** It is recommended that emergency personnel undergo training in the proper deployment and use of the APLS Thermal Guard to ensure proficiency during actual emergencies.
- **Storage:** Store unused APLS Thermal Guards in their original vacuum-sealed packaging in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and sharp objects. Proper storage ensures the litter maintains its effectiveness until needed.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** The APLS Thermal Guard is an essential component of emergency preparedness kits, especially in environments where traditional stretchers or thermal protection may not be available.

**Always follow your local Medical Direction and Protocols
for patient movement and hypothermia treatment.**