

Chewy Tubes

& JAW REHABILITATION PROGRAM



A step-by-step program for developing biting & chewing skills



KAPITEX

The Specialists in Laryngectomy,
Tracheostomy and Airway
Management, Dysphagia and
Oral Motor Rehabilitation

Chewy Tubes™

The innovative Oral Motor Device to develop biting and chewing skills

What are Chewy Tubes?

- Chewy Tubes are innovative oral motor devices designed to provide a resilient, non-food, chewable surface for practising biting and chewing skills. Chewy Tubes have been designed to be used with the new Jaw Rehabilitation Program, a patented methodology offered by Speech Pathology Associates, LLC to develop jaw motion for biting and chewing skills.
- Chewy Tubes offer a safe, non-toxic surface for developing biting and chewing skills. Chewy Tubes are latex-free and lead-free. In addition, they do not contain PVC or phthalates.
- Chewy Tubes are available in 2 fun and attractive colours. Yellow Chewy Tubes offer a smaller stem size for chewing while Red Chewy Tubes offer a slightly wider stem size. Chewy Tubes colours are all FDA compliant and CE marked.



The Range of Chewy Tubes™



Yellow (smooth)

The Yellow Chewy Tube is used with a smaller jaw, typically an infant 9 -10 months old. It can also be used with an individual who cannot open the jaw very wide. The Yellow Chewy Tube features a narrow stem 9.5mm OD.

Catalogue No. OS CHW 0001



Red (smooth)

The Red Chewy Tube is used normally with toddlers - it has a wider stem 12.7mm OD. This tube can also be used by children who are receptive to oral tactile stimulation or with adults who have a larger jaw.

Catalogue No. OS CHW 0002



Green (knobby)

The Green knobby Chewy Tube has been designed to increase sensory input by means of the raised dots on the shaft. The shaft diameter is 15mm OD. The Green knobby Chewy Tube is slightly harder to chew on when compared with Yellow and Red Chewy Tubes.

Catalogue No. OS CHW 0003



Blue (larger size)

The Blue Chewy Tubes are 75% thicker than the yellow or red Chewy Tubes.

This thickness represents an incremental increase in difficulty for use in exercises with the Jaw Rehabilitation program. The Blue Chewy Tubes are intended for use by adolescents or adults with a more developed masseter muscle.

Catalogue No. OS CHW 0005

All the tube handles have corrugated ridges to assist the grasp - especially useful for those who are visually impaired.

Who can use them?

- Chewy Tubes are offered to children and adults as a safe and effective tool for practising biting and chewing skills.
- Therapists may select Chewy Tubes for use in treatment of individuals who are developing initial oral motor skills, or rehabilitating the jaw after surgery, trauma or stroke.
- Youngsters seeking additional proprioceptive input into the jaw may also like biting on Chewy Tubes.
Children with autism require professional supervision when using Chewy Tubes.

NOTE: CHEWY TUBES ARE NOT RECOMMENDED FOR USE WITH CHILDREN UNDER 9 MONTHS OF AGE.

How are they used?

Chewy Tubes are offered for tactile input at the loci of the molar dentition/molar gum region as follows:

- 1) Present one Chewy Tube laterally into the mouth
 - 2) Touch the stem of the Chewy Tube to the cutting surface of the molar teeth/gum
 - 3) Help improve jaw stability and provide valuable sensory input into the jaw through biting on a Chewy Tube
- Chewy Tubes should always be used with supervision. Assessment of the jaw is recommended prior to biting on Chewy Tubes. Patients should follow the recommendations of their therapist or caregiver when using Chewy Tubes.

Super Chews

The Super Chew was developed to increase the range of Chewy Tube brand products available to develop biting and chewing skills. The Super Chew is a variant of Chewy Tube that offers a variety of features that compliment those found in other Chewy Tubes.

- First, the Super Chew is solid rather than hollow. This feature gives the Super Chew greater rigidity and consequently greater resistance to chewing than do Chewy Tubes that are hollow.
- Second, the Super Chew features a closed loop handle to facilitate a secure grip on the product when in use. This feature is especially useful to individuals lacking fine motor skills in the hands and fingers.
- The Super Chew is available in two varieties. The Green Super Chew is smooth and offers a uniform surface for practising biting and chewing skills. The Red Super Chew is textured and can be used both for biting and chewing exercises as well as enhancing tactile stimulation for sensory integration. Super Chews enhance the variety of Chewy Tubes available, based on the patient's needs, preferences and capabilities, in implementing the goals and objectives of the Jaw Rehabilitation Program.



Textured Super Chew



Smooth Super Chew

Red Knobby Super Chew

Catalogue No. OS CHW 0006

Green Super Chew

Catalogue No. OS CHW 0007



P & Q Chewing Aids

Both these devices provide more resistance than the Chewy Tubes, as they do not easily compress when chewing or biting takes place. The Q is wide enough for bi-lateral chewing activities and the P is especially easy to grasp by small fingers or those with low muscle tone.

Catalogue No: OS CHW 0004

(pack contains 1 P & 1 Q)

Jaw Rehabilitation Program

The Jaw Rehabilitation Program is a patented step-by-step series of goals and objectives designed to develop biting and chewing skills. The Jaw Rehabilitation Program offers a sequenced progression of treatment exercises to initiate and strengthen mandibular function needed for successful mastication skill.

Progress can be easily documented by recording the last short-term objective achieved by the patient at each session.

The Jaw Rehabilitation Program is appropriate for individuals with the following diagnoses:

- Autism
- Cleft Palate
- Downs Syndrome
- Dyspraxia
- Neuromuscular Disorders
- Cerebral Palsy
- Cranofacial abnormality
- Stroke
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Dysarthria

PATIENT USES

The Jaw Rehabilitation Program is used effectively with patients...

- who are delayed in developing oral motor function for biting and chewing skills
- to co-ordinate vertical movement of the jaw with placement of the bolus laterally
- to develop symmetrical and repetitive mandibular function for mastication of firmer textures
- to help transition from enteral feeding to oral feeding



A step-by step series of oral motor treatment goals and objectives

Goals:

- Develop adequate mastication, safe swallowing of a bolus
- Prevent danger of choking, blockage of the airway
- Develop oral motor function for improved oral hygiene i.e. management of saliva

Purpose:

- Initiate pre-biting mandibular movement in response to tactile stimulation
- Develop repetitive jaw excursion and closure skill
- Refine rhythmical vertical biting motion

When Used:

- Transition patients from gastrostomy feeding tube to oral feeding
- Transition patients from puréed diet to soft mechanical bolus
- Teach patients to initiate up/down pattern of jaw movement (pre-biting skill)
- Increase number of up/down cycles of jaw motion
- Strengthen inadequate muscle function for mastication

Chewy Tubes are an integral part of the Jaw Rehabilitation Program. All treatment activities presented in the Jaw Rehabilitation Program are implemented with Chewy Tubes, eliminating the need for actual food presentation.

Each Jaw Rehabilitation Program Kit includes:

- Jaw Rehabilitation Program Manual
- 7 Chewy Tubes (3 Yellow, stem size 9.5mm, 3 Red, stem size 12.7mm, 1 Green knobby, stem size 15mm), and 1 P and 1 Q pack
- 25 Jaw Assessment Forms

Catalogue No: OS CHW 0100



Jaw Rehabilitation Program

Seven Levels of Treatment

The Jaw Rehabilitation Program is comprised of seven levels of treatment. Two long-term goals are specified for each level. Each long-term goal is subdivided into several short-term objectives which lead to the successful outcome of the long-term goal.

Levels I & II

Target development of pre-requisite sensory and motor skills needed for biting and chewing behaviour.

Levels III & IV

Target the development of initial motor patterns of repetitive vertical jaw movement gradually building on these skills toward higher level abilities.

Levels V, VI & VII

Target development of more mature patterns of extended rhythmical and repetitive excursion/closure biting motion.

Assessment Forms

The Jaw Assessment Form offers a thorough guide on which to document a patient's pre- and post-treatment level of function. The components of the Jaw Assessment form include:

- Structural integrity
- Range of motion
- Dentition/alignment
- Functional movement
- Quality of motion
- Food texture

Exercises and Outcomes for Home Practice

The Jaw Rehabilitation Program can provide a quick reference of outcomes and exercises for patient practice at home. Family members and caregivers can be assigned exercises under the direction of the Speech Language Therapist.



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PBOS 0030 12/09