

KEY CONCEPT: POSTERIOR UPRIGHT IS SPRINGY  
ANKLE PLANTARFLEXION IS RESISTED, DORSIFLEXION IS ASSISTED



Combines full wrap-around design with a flexible posterior upright. Gives excellent hindfoot and forefoot control. Offers assistance with consistent dorsiflexion. Resists excessive plantarflexion but allows some plantarflexion to take place at heel strike and push off. Can allow free or limited dorsiflexion. Offers excellent medial and lateral stability in both swing and stance phase. Development and functional use of push off is available while wearing a DAFO 3.5. The flexibility of the posterior “spring” can vary from soft, to medium, to firm at the time of fabrication.

Describe the functional goal of the patient and the back will be designed for the best effect.

**USE WITH PATIENTS WHO:**

1. Have strong fixing patterns in supination or pronation.
2. Have some voluntary control that is very useful and can use the flexible control to increase overall function.
3. Have athetoid movement positioned in sitting or ambulating.
4. Need more M/L stability than possible in DAFO 4 or 3.
5. Who have mild knee hyperextension.
6. Need assistance in managing knee position in flexion and/or extension.

**Hindfoot:** excellent, wrap-around control

**Forefoot:** excellent, wrap-around control, hindfoot stable

**Ankle:** RESIST plantarflexion/ASSIST dorsiflexion  
excellent medial-lateral control



This 3.5 model is shown with instep, forefoot, and anterior stop (pretibial) straps, standard padding and toe rise.