

**Q:** Does Orthofix preauthorize the device with my insurance company?

**A:** Yes, Orthofix will preauthorize the order from your physician with your health plan.

**Q:** What happens if my insurance company denies the claim?

**A:** In the event the insurance carrier determines to not provide coverage, the claim will be forwarded to our appeals processing department on your behalf. In contingency of the claim outcome, Orthofix Inc. will contact you to arrange payment options.

**Q:** Who do I call if I have a question?

**A:** Customers may call the Orthofix Customer Service line: **1-800-535-4492**



Physio-Stim is available in a full range of sizes for treatment of all long bones.



The Healing Advantage.<sup>®</sup>  
Guaranteed



Physio-Stim is prescribed with a Guarantee Program which provides that radiographic progress will be shown in fracture healing, or the fee paid for the unit will be refunded to the payer(s) of record. This permits physicians to prescribe and insurance providers to approve our bone growth stimulation with confidence, and most importantly, to assure our patients will have the maximum opportunity to heal.

For more information, contact your local representative, or call Orthofix Customer Service at **800-535-4492**

[www.orthofix.com](http://www.orthofix.com)



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PHYSIO-STIM<sup>®</sup>  
Pulsed Electromagnetic Field  
Bone Growth Stimulation

## A Patient's Guide to Bone Growth Stimulation

Questions & Answers

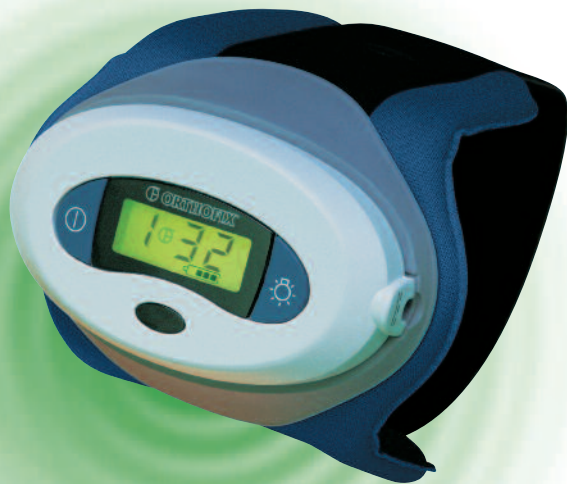


**Q:** What is the Physio-Stim® bone growth stimulator and how will it help me?

**A:** The Physio-Stim bone growth stimulator is a safe, nonsurgical treatment which your physician has prescribed to aid the healing of your fracture. The stimulator uses a very low-strength pulsed electromagnetic field (PEMF) to activate the body's natural healing process.

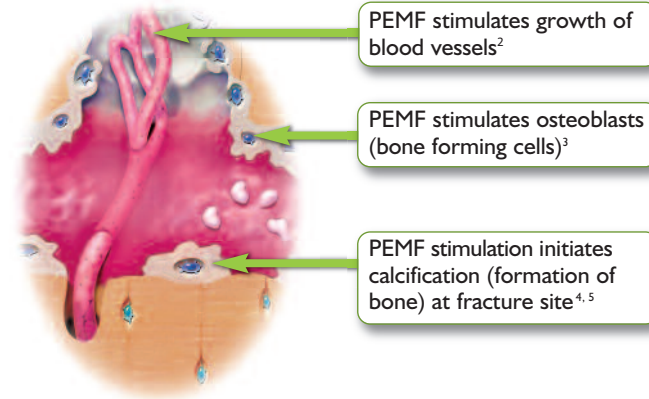
Electrical currents have been used to heal broken bones since the mid-1800's. However, it wasn't until the 1950's that scientists made an important discovery. When human bone is bent or broken, it generates an electrical field. This low level electrical field activates the body's internal repair mechanism, which in turn stimulates bone healing.

In some patients, this healing process is impaired or absent. The fracture fragments may not mend properly, and a nonunion results. The bone growth stimulation provided by Physio-Stim has proven very successful in treating fracture nonunions. In clinical studies, Physio-Stim helped 8 out of every 10 patients to heal.<sup>1</sup>



**Q:** How does Physio-Stim work?

**A:** Using electricity, Physio-Stim generates a low level magnetic signal at the fracture site. This signal stimulates your own normal bone healing process, which may be impaired or absent. The unit may be worn over a cast, external fixator, orthopedic brace, or clothing without lessening its effectiveness.



**Q:** Is Physio-Stim safe?

**A:** Yes. Physio-Stim produces a signal at the fracture site like the one your own body would generate to induce normal bone healing. The PEMF emitted by Physio-Stim was specially designed with your safety in mind, and is similar in strength to what you're exposed to naturally from the magnetic field of the earth. Thousands of patients have worn Physio-Stim to heal their nonunions. Physio-Stim may be safely used with fixation devices, such as screws, plates, or pins, or even in fractures where there is infection. You should not wear the device if you have a demand type pacemaker.

1. Garland DE: Contemp Orthop. 1991 Mar;22(3):295-302  
2. Yen-Patton GP et al: J Cell Phys 1988;134:37-46  
3. McElhanev JH: J Bone Joint Surg. 1967;49A:1561  
4. Midura RJ et al: J Orthop Res. 2005;23(5):1035-46  
5. Marino AA and Becker RO: Nature 1970;228:473

**Q:** What will Physio-Stim treatment feel like? How will it affect my daily activities?

**A:** You won't feel the PEMF therapy, and the Physio-Stim unit is lightweight and adjustable for a comfortable fit. It is powered with a battery, which allows the unit to be portable. You can sit, stand, sleep, walk, recline, and drive while using Physio-Stim. With your physician's approval, you can resume a normal activity level.

**Q:** What is my daily treatment time?

**A:** Physio-Stim treatment is based on a daily therapy schedule. The treatment time is three hours per day.

**Q:** Do I need to wear the Physio-Stim at the same time each day?

**A:** No. You have the flexibility to receive your treatment at any time during the day. The device has a built-in 24 hour clock which allows for treatment each day between the hours of 12:00 a.m. through 11:59 p.m. Central Time. Additionally, you may chose to break your total daily prescribed treatment into a number of shorter sessions lasting at least one hour each, in accordance with your doctor's instructions.



**Q:** Can I wear Physio-Stim if I am pregnant?

**A:** The effect of PEMF treatment has not been studied during pregnancy or nursing. Therefore, if you are pregnant or nursing, you should consult your doctor before using Physio-Stim.

**Q:** Can I wear Physio-Stim with a TENS unit or cardiac pacemaker?

**A:** Physio-Stim can be used with a TENS unit, however, the device may interfere with demand type pacemakers. If you wear a pacemaker, you should consult your doctor before using Physio-Stim.

**Q:** How long will it take to heal with Physio-Stim?

**A:** The healing process determines the duration of the treatment, and your physician will closely monitor your progress. To promote healing, it is very important that you wear Physio-Stim daily as prescribed. Your doctor may require that you bring your unit in on your follow-up visits to check your compliance. Although your treatment may vary, most patients wear the device between four and eight months.

**Q:** How often will I need to charge the battery?

**A:** It is strongly recommended that the device be recharged after completing daily treatment. The Physio-Stim will not deliver treatment while charging.

**Q:** Will my insurance company pay for the device?

**A:** Insurance policies are different depending on the plan you have chosen. The bone growth stimulator is accepted and approved by the majority of health plans and workers compensation plans. Guidelines are established for payment through Medicare and Medicaid coverage.