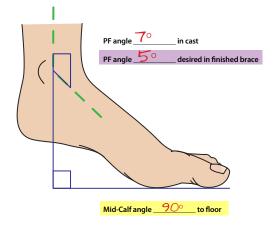


R1/R2 and High Tone Brace Planning

To avoid overstretching and/or triggering spasticity in your patient, optimize your DAFO to accommodate range of motion limitations. Provide precise specifications on your order form, using the information below as a guide.

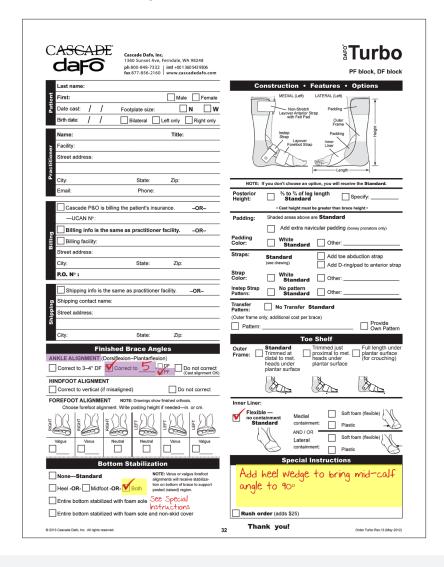
The illustration and guidelines below are provided to help you fill out the corresponding areas of the order form shown on the right:

- 1. Decide the planned brace position at the ankle (this may differ from the angle captured in the cast).
- 2. Determine the mid-calf angle as it relates to the floor. Measure the DF/PF angle at mid-calf. This will give us the information we need to build a wedge under the brace that meets your specifications. Ask for this in the Special Instructions section of the order form.



For questions, ask Customer Support:

800.848.7332 customersupport@dafo.com



Some background information about R1/R2 brace planning:

Some clinicians believe, in order to avoid triggering spasticity, it is important to avoid over-stretching. When planning the DF angle of a brace, these clinicians recommend stopping at R1. R1 stands for "resistance-1," meaning the initial velocity-dependent "first catch" of muscle resistance.

When this theory is put into practice in patients with high tone excess PF, you might find that R1 is actually a PF position, perhaps -5 to -15 degrees. If we set the brace there, the patient will need to compensate in one way or another to be able to stand and/or walk. We don't want the patient to compensate by hyperextending at the knee, or leaving a space below their heel and the ground, so we bring the ground up to meet the patient by adding a wedge of material between the bottom of the brace and/or shoe and the ground, bringing the tibia-to-floor relationship to 90 - 3 deg. This way, the patient can still feel the ground reaction that will start the chain of events telling them where they are in space, and what reaction or motion should follow. Through regular use, the intent is for the patient to experience significant improvement to ROM at the ankle.

Other clinicians believe that within the pediatric population, R2 ("resistance-2") is a better place to start. R2 represents the position beyond the first catch, getting to the patient's maximum end-range through a slow and steady stretch. Setting the brace in this position in a high-tone pediatric patient may or may not still require some wedging, but it will be less than the R1 setting. The intent here is, through regular use, the patient's range may quickly catch up to the angle set in the brace without the difficulty and extra expense involved in managing a brace that requires wedging and may quickly become too plantarflexed as progress is made.

Nuanced approaches to these theories can also be employed by choosing an ankle angle brace setting between R1 and R2 or by using a flexible or adjustable brace design.

No matter which theory the clinical team is working with, Cascade Dafo can help. Simply communicate with us through the specifications on your order form as shown above, and we will fabricate the brace the way you want it.