

Innovative Therapy Offers Non-Invasive Incontinence Solution

The PF TonerPro (Zimmer MedizinSystems, Irvine, Calif.) device addresses Urinary Incontinence (UI) using electromagnetic field energy for muscle stimulation therapy. At its core, the system features a control unit with a static / dynamic applicator for precise therapy adjustments, an optional treatment cushion, and an optional custom treatment chair. This approach strengthens pelvic floor muscles reducing incontinence symptoms. It's estimated that around one-third of women suffer from UI in their lives. The prevalence increases with age, particularly after menopause. However, younger women can also be affected, especially after childbirth. The device successfully treats men and women. Under-reporting is common with UI because of the embarrassment or stigma that individuals may feel about discussing the condition.

"The PF TonerPro strengthens the pelvic floor muscles, offering a solution for individuals facing incontinence issues or weakened pelvic muscles post-childbirth," said Daniela Breyer, Head of Product Management, Aesthetic Division at Zimmer MedizinSysteme (Germany). "Toning this specific area can be challenging through traditional methods alone, such as Kegel exercises, which may not provide comprehensive results. The electromagnetic field stimulates the pelvic floor passively, inducing thousands of Kegel-like contractions in each 20- to 30-minute session. This method strengthens the pelvic floor and combats urinary incontinence making it ideal for individuals with muscle weakening from childbirth, aging, or other factors."



Daniela Breyer Head of Product Management Aesthetic Division

Being a good conductor of electricity and receptive to magnetic fields, the human body benefits from electromagnetic field stimulation, expressed Regina Hill, M.D., a gynecologist and cosmetic surgeon in Westlake, Ohio. "PF TonerPro technology boosts cellular energy by penetrating cells, tissues, organs, and bones, enhancing their electrochemistry. Healthy cells have a higher membrane charge than diseased or aged cells, and a low charge can impair cell functions. Electromagnetic stimulation helps to optimize cell function and improve membrane performance, addressing the energy deficit in cells with lower membrane charges."

The PF TonerPro offers four predefined programs targeting different incontinence types and allows for customized programs to meet specific patient needs. Treatment sessions include adjustable intensity levels. The design includes a touchscreen interface and a control knob for easy intensity adjustments. Options include a convenient cushion or a treatment chair with three interchangeable inlays to accommodate various patient sizes.

According to Robert Wilber, President, Zimmer MedizinSystems USA, "There's a significant unmet need for effective pelvic floor therapy, which addresses not only incontinence but also other poorly understood conditions. Many people are aware of UI but underestimate its severe impact on individuals' lives. Our solution offers a transformative change, rejuvenating and restoring health to a large, aging population affected by this condition. It's possible that we all know someone suffering in silence, highlighting the importance of our work."



Regina Hill, M.D.

When considering similar products on the market that treat UI and sexual dysfunction, Dr. Hill said, "Choosing PF TonerPro was influenced by my previous experience with Zimmer Medizin Systems' range of products. I'm well-acquainted with the company and have a deep trust in the quality of their offerings, from manufacturing to the sales team. My practice required an effective solution for electromagnetic stimulation of the pelvis, catering to a significant number of my patients who suffer from these conditions. I needed a reliable product that could address these issues, and Zimmer MedizinSystems' reputation made the PF TonerPro an obvious choice. UI is a prevalent issue affecting roughly 30% of my gynecological practice, and spans a wide range

of patients, from women who have recently given birth to those whose lives have been significantly altered by the condition. With around 25 million women in need of help in these areas, the demand for solutions is immense. Despite the reluctance many patients have to discuss UI, I make it a point to start the conversation and normalize the topic, encouraging them to open up. This approach has become a routine part of my practice and includes discussions about sexual function."

The ideal candidate for this treatment encompasses women and men of all ages, she added. "Including younger patients experiencing dysfunction because of childbirth or pregnancy. It's beneficial for those who may plan more children and wish to avoid surgical options like slings, which are not recommended until a woman has finished having children. This treatment has proven effective for men, as well; several of my female patients, after seeing their own results, have referred their husbands as potential candidates."

Michael Busic, Director of Aesthetics and Wellness at Zimmer MedizinSystems USA, said, "We have also explored the device for other conditions, such as idiopathic pelvic pain, which, by definition, lacks a known cause. In such cases, urologists and gynecologists may employ a trial-and-error approach with various treatments to find what works. Often times combined therapy turns out to be the most beneficial. PF TonerPro may be potentially beneficial in these situations, as well. Observations have shown that treatment strengthens and thickens the muscles, causing measurable changes in cell elasticity, which show the tangible impact of the device on muscle structure."

PF TonerPro requires no consumables or disposables, providing a cost-effective solution that reduces ongoing expenses for practices. The treatment offers both static and dynamic options, allowing practitioners to use the applicator with or without the optional chair for versatile treatment angles. "Its method of delivering electromagnetic energy sets PF TonerPro apart from others using similar technology," said Ms. Breyer. "The applicator has an internal coil that generates an electric current in the cells, facilitating cell contraction. Offering both static and dynamic treatments make PF TonerPro distinctive. For example, while the patient is in the chair, one can remove the applicator to extend treatment to the lower back. This capability allows for a comprehensive treatment, distinguishing this device as uniquely versatile."

PF TonerPro's predefined programs minimize the need for trial and error when determining the best, most effective treatment. The device also provides the flexibility to create custom programs, recognizing that each patient's needs are unique. "I'm enthusiastic about the device's preset programs," stated Dr. Hill. "They eliminate much of the guesswork during treatment. These programs are based on an understanding of what works effectively.

The system's ability to customize programs is also invaluable. It aligns with my approach to patient care, recognizing that each patient is unique and sometimes requires a tailored treatment approach."

Patient satisfaction has been "over the moon," Dr. Hill added. "My patients have been ecstatic from the very first treatment, which is gratifying. Their satisfaction is profound, especially appreciating the non-invasive nature of the procedure that doesn't require undressing. The immediate results stand out significantly; while outcomes improve over time, that they don't have to wait until deep into the treatment to see changes has been a major point of happiness. The feedback on seeing results as soon as after the first session has been overwhelmingly positive, making their satisfaction truly exceptional."

As noted by Mr. Wilber, "The key message is that the treatment is both safe and effective, but it requires more than just an unattended operation. Proper positioning of the patient is crucial, necessitating a dedicated champion within the medical office to oversee this process. It's not as simple as pressing a button. It involves optimizing the treatment for each individual, explaining the procedures, and setting the right expectations and timelines. Ensuring the patient understands and feels comfortable with the treatment process is essential for success."

Overall, PF TonerPro has added much value to Dr. Hill's menu of aesthetic and gynecological services. "What I appreciate about this product is its reliability," she stated. "I can confidently offer my patients a treatment that I know will be effective. It is non-invasive and affordable, making it accessible to them. These qualities make it an excellent option for patient care."



Robert Wilber, President Zimmer MedizinSystems (USA)

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