# THE ABCs OF LOP



A IS FOR ABSOLUTE MINIMUM

B IS FOR BLOODLESS FIELD

C IS FOR CONFIDENCE



Have any of your patients complained of post-operative tourniquet pain or transient nerve pain? Did you know, nerve-related injuries have been attributed to higher levels of tourniquet inflation pressure and higher pressure gradients?<sup>1</sup>

Make no mistake; Limb Occlusion Pressure (LOP) is not just any pressure that stops blood flow to the limb. We know that patients all have different systolic blood pressure, limb shape and circumference – and having the ability to choose the lowest possible pressure for each patient makes sense.

The Zimmer Biomet A.T.S.® 5000 is designed to measure the individual minimum cuff pressure of a patient necessary to stop arterial blood flow and reports this information back to you. Concurrently, it also displays the Recommended Tourniquet Pressure (RTP) for that specific patient's limb, which accounts for any fluctuations in blood pressure throughout the case.

Let's discuss the ABCs of LOP

# **Absolute Minimum**

The true definition of LOP, as defined by McEwen *et al.*, is the minimum cuff pressure that stops arterial blood flow distal to the cuff.<sup>2</sup> This definition is supported by Tuncali *et al.* as being called Arterial Occlusion Pressure (AOP).<sup>3</sup> The terms AOP and LOP are synonyms. Using the minimum effective pressure (i.e. LOP) added to a pressure margin has been shown to allow the use of lower tourniquet cuff pressures when compared to recommended standards without affecting limb hemostasis.<sup>4\*</sup>

# **Bloodless Field**

It has been well reported and studied that high tourniquet pressure can cause nerve damage, weakening, partial or complete muscle paralysis and injury to the tissue under and near the tourniquet.<sup>4\*,5,6\*</sup>

Tourniquet cuff pressures that are too low could result in bleeding distal to the cuff that can result in undesirable blood in the surgical field and blood loss. Insufficient tourniquet cuff pressures have been reported to impair venous return, while allowing arterial blood flow to continue. Therefore, setting tourniquet pressures too low can cause pooling of blood in the field.

## Confidence

LOP is used to determine the minimum effective tourniquet pressure. The A.T.S. 5000 includes two methods for measuring LOP, including the Distal Method and the EZ Method, which allows you to determine LOP without a non-sterile sensor. A recent study concluded that both methods provide agreeable results of accurate, effective LOP measurement.<sup>8\*</sup>

Using a standard-width tourniquet cuff with an automatic system that senses LOP and adds a pressure margin results in 12 to 25% lower tourniquet cuff pressure compared to current practices. Hemostasis was successfully achieved in 93% of the cases. 2\*

The A.T.S. 5000 completes this entire process in approximately 30 seconds. Reid *et al.* showed that the LOP plus a pressure margin gave good hemostasis in 93.2% of upper extremity procedures and 97.5% in lower extremity procedures.<sup>4\*</sup>

Compared to previous Zimmer Biomet tourniquet models, LOP processes have been improved in the A.T.S. 5000. With improved signal quality, testing has demonstrated that the distal sensor can be detected in 1-2 seconds. Additionally, EZ Method does not require an additional sensor - simplifying workflow - and LOP measurements can be performed closer to cuff inflation time.

The A.T.S. 5000 reports the LOP and RTP and aims to provide you an option to personalize the tourniquet cuff pressures, while keeping the final setting of pressure in your hands.

### References

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Laboratory testing is not necessarily indicative of clinical performance.

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