Clubfoot Solutions Glossary

30-degree angle. The correct outward angle of the shoe for an unaffected foot when a child with unilateral clubfoot wears the Iowa Brace.

60-degree angle. The correct outward angle of the shoe for a corrected clubfoot when a child wears the Iowa Brace.

brace release key. A plastic tool that is used to make it easier to remove a child’s brace.

corrected clubfoot. A clubfoot that has already been treated with serial casting and a tenotomy using the Ponseti method.

dorsiflexion. The foot’s ability to flex upward.

Iowa Brace. A brace consisting of two shoes, platforms, and the Iowa Flexbar that is used to maintain corrected clubfeet.

Iowa Flexbar, also called the bar. The bar that connects to the platforms to hold the child’s feet in the correct alignment while wearing the brace. The child must wear the shoes and the bar. The shoes alone will not maintain a clubfoot correction.

enhanced buckle, also called a buckle. The buckles on the Iowa Brace shoes. The enhanced buckles make it difficult for a child to open the buckles and remove the shoe.

frame. The rectangular metal part of the buckle.

platform. The part of the Iowa Brace that connects the shoe to the Iowa Flexbar.

plug. A small piece of plastic to be inserted in the platform after the doctor or orthotist sets the angle of the platform.

prong. The metal part of the buckle that goes through the hole in the strap when the shoe is buckled.

relapsed clubfoot. A clubfoot that was corrected, but has lost its correction.