### **Welcome to CoreStretch**

Each year we lose flexibility in our muscles, tendons and ligaments. This loss in flexibility directly correlates to increase risk of injury and a decrease in athletic performance. Because the back is the core of our skeletal and muscular system its health is vital to our bodies overall performance. Yet, this is also why the back continues to be one of the leading causes of pain and discomfort.

CoreStretch was designed to stretch the back, shoulders and legs better than traditional and conventional methods. Corestretch's unique design elongates the back, stretching the muscles, tendons and ligaments not only in the back, but also those in your legs that work in conjunction with the back. Traditional and conventional back stretching methods are either to difficult to use or force the back to curve instead of elongate.

CoreStretch is also light and collapsible making it easy to transport for use anywhere you go.

### **Stretching Guidelines**

- Stretching is more effective after warming up and also after exercise.
- Never bounce or jerk when stretching
- Hold each stretch 10-30 seconds
- Never stretch to the point of pain. Stretch to the point of mild tension in the muscles and then relax as you hold the stretch.
- Focus on breathing slowly, deeply and naturally. Proper breathing aids relaxation which enhances your stretching success.

### **Proper Technique**

For best results, it is important that the CoreStretch be properly sized (adjusted in length) and positioned correctly.

To position the CoreStretch correctly, first set the padded foam bar on you lap at your waist, approximately the same position as your waist or belt line. It is preferable that the numbers face you, with the number I on top and the number I0 on the bottom

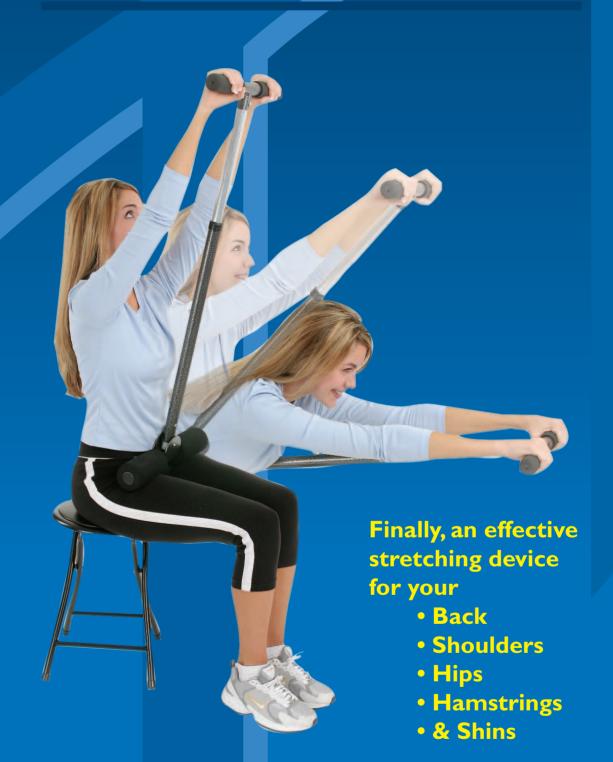
For proper sizing, adjust the CoreStretch on one of the settings, numbered 1-10. Depress the button and lengthen the CoreStretch to the number which fully extends your arms and straightens your back but still allows for a comfortable grip with your hands. You are now ready to use the CoreStretch.

The attached stretching poster demonstrates a variety of stretches that may be performed using the CoreStretch. Please note that there are three levels of stretching and that not all stretches are recommended at each level. For beginners it is recommended that you start in a seated/chair position, working your way up to the intermediate or standing/supported position and if possible the advanced or seated/floor position.

For additional instruction, a DVD is available on-line at www.medi-dyne.com or by calling 817-251-8660 or toll free in the United States at 800-810-1740.

# CoreStretch

"Stretching BACK Into Shape"





## **CoreStretch**<sup>™</sup>

"Stretching BACK Into Shape"

For best results, please read the stretching guidelines and directions for proper technique included on the reverse side of this poster. Also, be sure that your arms are fully extended (not bent at the elbow) and your back is straight (not curved) as shown in the diagram below. This will maximize your back elongation and stretch.

### **Correct Height**



### **Correct Posture**



**Incorrect Height** 



**Incorrect Posture** 



**Advanced** 

Grip the handle with one

the chair with the other

supporting hand. Reverse

hand. Lean toward the

hand and support yourself on

Lateral

### Beginning stretches in a seated position

### Lower Back



Keep legs bent and slowly lean forward. You may also lean side to side emphasizing a side or specific target

### Lower Back & Hamstrings



Position yourself on the edge of your seat. Straighten your legs and slowly lean forward. This can also be done one

### Lower & Upper **Back & Shoulders**



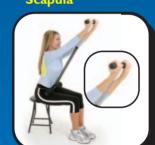
Legs bent, cross your arms (see inset) and slowly lean

### Lower Back, **Hamstrings & Shins**



Sitting on the edge of your chair, straighten your legs and point your toes. Slowly

### Lats & Lateral



Reverse your hands so that your palms are facing upwards (see inset) and slowly lean forward

### Hip (Piriformis)



Sitting comfortably in your chair, cross the leg of the hip you want to stretch and slowly lean

### Intermediate stretches in a standing position

(can also be done leaning against a wall for support)

#### Lower Back



Slightly bend the knees and slowly lean forward. You may also lean side to side emphasizing a side or specific target area.



### Lower & Upper Back & Shoulders



your arms (see inset) and slowly lean forward.

### Lats & Lateral Scapula



Slightly bend the knees. Reverse your hands so that your palms are facing upwards (see inset) and slowly lean forward

### Lower Back & **Hamstrings**



Straighten your legs and slowly lean forward.

### Advanced stretching sitting on the floor

### **Lower Back** & Hamstrings



With legs straight, slowly lean

**Peroneal (Outer** Calf & Ankle) Lateral (outside) **Hamstrings** 



With legs spread, invert toes (point inward) and slowly lean forward.

### **Groin & Hamstrings**



With legs spread, slowly lean

### **Advanced Lat**



With legs straight and slightly separated, grip the handle with one hand and support yourself on the floor with the other. Lean toward the supporting hand. Reverse hands for other side.

### Medial (inner) Calf & Medial (inner) **Hamstrings**



With legs spread, evert toes (point outward) and slowly lean forward.

As always, if you have had any recent physical problems or surgery, or if you are just beginning to exercise, especially after a long absence, please consult your physician. As with any new stretching technique, it is recommended that you start slowly using the beginner positions and then gradually progress to the more advanced positions and techniques.

