Ankle Foot Orthoses (AFOs) are frequently prescribed to improve the walking ability of patients suffering from stroke, multiple sclerosis or partial spinal cord injury. However, it is not known which properties an AFO should hold in order to result in the greatest improvement in walking ability. In this thesis, we aim to discover which properties an AFO should hold in order to improve walking ability the most.

VU University Research Institute MOVE is a collaboration between researchers of the Faculty of Human Movement Sciences, VU University Medical Center and the Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam. The research of MOVE is related to human movement and health, with an emphasis on prevention and recovery of injury and disorders of the (neuro-)musculoskeletal system, on optimal recovery of tissue and function, and on motor control and coordination. MOVE aims at fundamental, multidisciplinary and translational research, especially in the fields of (oral) regenerative medicine, rehabilitation and sports.

www.move.vu.nl

D.J.J. Bregman

The Optimal Ankle Foot Orthosis

The influence of mechanical properties of Ankle Foot Orthoses on the walking ability of patients with central neurological disorders