

Commonly asked Onyfix questions

What is the downtime for my patients after having the Onyfix applied?

There is NO downtime. Once the Onyfix compound has been cured (hardened with the LED light), your patient is free to do whatever activity they already had planned... running, swimming or dancing - you name it they can participate.

Are there any contradictions to using Onyfix?

There are no known contraindications to using the Onyfix system. As it does not touch the skin there have been no reported allergic reactions. It is not a brace and there is no torque or foreign objects such as hooks or suction cups involved that can put your patient at risk. By fixing the nail through its own natural physiological growth the Onyfix Nail Correction System is safe for even the highest risk patients. *This includes children, pregnant women and even patients with peripheral neuropathy who are not candidates for a surgical matrixectomy.*

Can I get the Onyfix wet?

Absolutely. Once the Onyfix compound is cured your patient can bathe, shower and swim as they like.

Can my patients wear nail polish over top of the Onyfix strip?

Yes - as long as they are using a nail polish that can be removed with acetone or liquid nail polish remover. A gel or shellac polish that requires mechanical debridement or filing to be removed should not be used as the Onyfix strip may come off during the debridement.

Why do the strips sometimes dislodge early?

The application of the Onyfix is quick and easy but if even one step is missed than the bonding process can be compromised. Some trouble shooting tips:

- Make sure to cure the primer for 45 seconds. Wipe away any excess moisture following the curing process
- make sure that the battery in your light is fully charged. There is no indicator light to show when it is charged. Plug it in for three full hours to ensure maximum charge. A good rule of thumb is to recharge for only 3 hours after every 10 – 15 patients. Overcharging the battery for longer than this can shorten the lifespan.
- Make sure to charge the battery when you first receive it- even if it already seems to have a charge. When the charge is weak the light will not have the strength to properly cure the resin

SEE BELOW FOR WAYS TO CARE FOR YOUR ONYLUX LIGHT

- Another common reason for strips falling off is if the nail is very thin or if there's lifting or onycholysis present. If this is the case you might want to try applying two layers of the soft Onyfix one on top of the other instead of the hard as seen in the clinical video.
- Always make sure the strip you apply is 2 mm high by 2 mm wide for best results, but if the nail is very thin and brittle you can try using 2 layers of the soft product 3 mm wide while still maintaining the 2 mm high.

- Take care to not touch the skin during the application process as the oils in the skin can affect the bonding process
- If using a water drill turn off the spray- water will keep the composite from bonding properly
- make sure you use non woven sponges when prepping the nail with rubbing alcohol. Cotton balls and gauze can leave microscopic lint that can interfere with the bond.
- Make sure you apply the strip of onyfix straight across the nail. Some practitioners are tempted when faced with a pincer nails to place the Onyfix in a curved U or horseshoe shape, but angling the tips of the strips puts extra pressure on them and can cause the strip to dislodge easier.

What is the difference between a soft and a hard Onyfix product and when should I use each?

It is interesting to note that the hard and soft products are the same, just different consistencies for ease or application for different issues.

Onyfix®Hard is a denser compound used for big nails, thick nails and strong deformations

Onyfix®Soft has a more glue like consistency that is more suited for small, thin and for children's nails and split nails

Tip – it is interesting to note you can put two coats of the soft on for the same effect as the hard. This seems to adhere better to thinner and more flexible nails.

Can I use the Onyfix on an infected toe? It is important to remember that blood and other body fluids can impede the bonding process of the Onyfix band. If the area is weepy it would be best to have your patient come back for the Onyfix application following antibiotic therapy.

Can I use the Onyfix on clubbed toes where the tissue at the distal portion of the toe is higher than the nail bed? Onyfix typically shines in correcting involuted nails. That being said, many practitioners have found that the support the Onyfix provides to the nail can help prevent the nail from growing into the raised distal portion, depending on the degree of club. Try applying a strip about halfway up the nail for best results.

What is the best timeline to have patients come back for a follow up?

Onyfix patients should come back for a follow up at six weeks to clear the nail grooves out with a curette and reduce distal pressure with the blacks file. Have the patient return again another 6 weeks after that and at this point you can add an additional proximal strip.

- When you add this proximal strip the original strip will have been on for about 3 months and likely will be positioned quite distally now from nail growth. Leave the original strip on (the patient will have two strips on until the distal one falls off).
- After this, follow up every three months for a re-application of a proximal strip until the problem is fixed.

What is the expiration date of the product?

It is a legal requirement to put the expiry date of the first item in the kit that will expire. The first item in the Onyfix starter kit that would expire is the primer because the primer is liquid and can evaporate once opened. The expiry date for this is listed as about 1 year. To maintain the integrity of your product do not leave the lids off of the products and do not store in direct sunlight. Room temperature or cooler is ideal.

How can I implement using Onyfix with TNA and PNA's?

Podiatrists and Chiropractors are recognizing better results when using Onyfix post PNA and TNA for a straighter nail regrowth. When used as part of the PNA protocol, simply apply the a double Onyfix strip (one located as approximately as possible and a second about mid nail) immediately following the procedure and reassess at three months. The patient likely will require two applications.

When used as part of the TNA protocol, have the patient come back around the two month mark and apply a strip of the soft Onyfix to the delicate nub of nail as it grows out. The soft composite is a better choice for a new and softer nail. Reassess about four months later and reapply as necessary.

How is the Onyfix composite and light different to that of acrylic nails and dental applications (attaching braces)?

Onyfix is made of a proprietary composite formulation that binds to the keratin of the nails as opposed to dental anagram, which binds to teeth.

Acrylics were never designed to use to correct nail issues. They are not safe for use on all patients and they are not clinically proven to work. The Onyfix compound is a class one medical device approved for the prevention and treatment of medical conditions

Can I use the Onyfix on a pincer nail?

Yes! The best protocol to treat pincer toenails is to apply two Onyfix strips - one proximally and the other placed about mid toenail. Let the patient know the distal strip will likely fall off sooner which is normal and expected. You can then continue to apply a proximal strip as the nail grows out.

What is type of light is included in the starter kit? The light is an LED light that focuses on the near infra red rays that are healthy and do NOT stimulate carcinogens. It filters out the harmful UV rays and does not concentrate them enough to cause eye damage so neither you nor your patient need to wear glasses

- Tip - Its important to note you must use the light provided in the tool kit. It is specifically designed to work optimally with the resin. The polymerization or hardening of the compound needs a very specific power and wavelength.

How much should I charge my patients?

Each Onyfix band/ strip application is charged in addition to the standard office treatment fee. Professional are charging anywhere from \$75 - \$225 per strip depending on your area and demand. These margins are excellent as the product typically costs about eight dollars per strip and the strip can be applied in less than five minutes.

If I have a clinical question who should I do and who should I contact?

Please see the commonly asked questions list. There are also monthly complimentary Q & A sessions with expert Bree Wright RN where you can discuss your specific questions live. She will also include new tricks and tips for the Onyfix system during this presentation. Go to Fiser.ca to register for the next session. You can also email onyfixhelp@fiser.ca

How long will each band of Onyfix stay on?

It's important to note the Onyfix strip typically dislodges when it reaches the distal third portion of the nail.

How long does that take? This is completely patient dependent. A 25 year old healthy nail is going to grow faster and need to be replaced quicker than a 90 year old gryphotic nail. For the average adult, typically between the ages of 25-65 the Onyfix is usually very secure for about 4 months before reaching that distal portion of the nail and falling off. For nails on older patients who's nail grow more slowly one strip can stay on for 8-9 months.

How many bands of Onyfix will it take to correct the involution?

This is again very patient dependent based on how quickly the nail is growing and the degree of the involution. On average it takes just over a year for the Onyfix to correct the involution. This means the patient will likely need between 2 - 4 strips to correct the problem.

Once corrected will the patient have to constantly use Onyfix to keep it from re-involuting?

After more than three years of use Neubourg is finding that unless there are other aggravating factors such as foot wear that is too tight or biomechanical issues, the nails do not reinvolute.

Can I use the Onyfix on a thick gryphotic or fungal nail?

Yes! The Onyfix strip loves a stable base and a thick nail that moves very little is ideal. It actually tends to be the thinner nails with more movement that cause the Onyfix to dislodge.

Care of your Onyfix light:

Here are a few good tips to maximize the lifespan of the battery. It should be good for up to 300 hours which is significant considering it is only used for about 2 minutes per patient. It comes with a USB cord and can be used while plugged in in addition to having the battery pack.

1. If you're finding that your primer or composite are not setting properly, or if your Onyfix strips are falling off your patient's nails in only a few days, then you've probably waited too long to recharge your light: although your light will still turn on, the actual power of the battery (which is invisible to the naked eye) is too low now and isn't strong enough to cure the compounds properly anymore.
2. Don't wait until your battery is fully discharged before recharging it. Lithium-ion batteries actually prefer partial drainage to complete drainage. The Onylux battery should last about 6-8 hours' worth of run time before it is completely drained. A good rule of thumb to prevent your battery from dropping below about 50% charge is to reach charge for three hours after every 10-15 patients.
3. Don't overcharge your batteries! Excessive charging (ie. keeping it plugged in long after it has completely recharged) can damage the battery and shorten its lifespan. A helpful tip is to start recharging your light in the morning and then unplug it around lunchtime while you're still at the office, as opposed to plugging it in before you leave work and leaving it to charge overnight.
4. When not in use, be sure to store your light at room temperature or, ideally, in air conditioned spaces. Heat is bad for the battery and will decrease its lifespan. Refrigeration is not necessary though.
5. If you know you're not going to use your light for a while (for example, when going on vacation), we recommend taking the battery out of the LED light entirely, placing it by itself in a tupperware container or cardboard box away from any metal objects or other batteries, and then placing it in a cool, dark spot until it's ready for reuse

How do I assemble my light from the start kit?

1- Unpack the battery, light, lid and cord



2- Unscrew the battery holder from the back of the light



3- Place the battery in the battery holder. Make sure the negative end (-) is inserted into the light shaft, with the positive end (+) attached to the battery holder as shown.



4 - Screw the battery and battery holder back in the light



5 -Screw the battery and battery holder back in the light



6- This is what it should look like



7 -Press the lid firmly on the light



8- Plug in the charger for 3 hours initially



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4. Although it depends on a number of different factors, most batteries should last about 300 recharge cycles.
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