

## Information on Absorbency Levels - MoliCare

### Total ISO Absorbency

ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) Absorbency is a standardised absorbency level.

This method measures the Total Absorbency of a pad. The pad is weighed dry, then fully immersed in water, and then re-weighted after a short drying period.

Most incontinence products will be labelled with the ISO Total Absorbency as it allows the user to directly compare one product or brand to another. It is important to note however that it is not recommended to ever use an incontinence product to its full capacity, as it will be saturated, cause the product to be heavy, uncomfortable and damp against the skin with a risk of skin irritation.

When selecting the most suitable product, we would suggest referring to the working absorbency level.

### Rothwell Banding Scale

| Insert Pad Band Number | Minimum ISO Absorbency Capacity (ml) | Maximum ISO Absorbency Capacity (ml) | Absorbency Range (ml) | All-in-One/ Pant Band Number | Minimum ISO Absorbency Capacity (ml) | Maximum ISO Absorbency Capacity (ml) |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| I1                     | 0                                    | 49                                   | 50                    |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I2                     | 50                                   | 99                                   | 50                    |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I3                     | 100                                  | 199                                  | 100                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I4                     | 200                                  | 299                                  | 100                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I5                     | 300                                  | 449                                  | 150                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I6                     | 450                                  | 599                                  | 150                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I7                     | 600                                  | 799                                  | 200                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I8                     | 800                                  | 999                                  | 200                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I9                     | 1000                                 | 1249                                 | 250                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I10                    | 1250                                 | 1499                                 | 250                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I11                    | 1500                                 | 1799                                 | 300                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I12                    | 1800                                 | 2099                                 | 300                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I13                    | 2100                                 | 2499                                 | 400                   |                              |                                      |                                      |
| I14                    | 2500                                 | 2899                                 | 400                   | D14                          | 1300                                 | 1699                                 |
| I15                    | 2900                                 | 3299                                 | 400                   | D15                          | 1700                                 | 2099                                 |
|                        |                                      |                                      | 400                   | D16                          | 2100                                 | 2499                                 |
|                        |                                      |                                      | 400                   | D17                          | 2500                                 | 2899                                 |
|                        |                                      |                                      | 400                   | D18                          | 2900                                 | 3299                                 |
|                        |                                      |                                      | 400                   | D19                          | 3300                                 | 3699                                 |
|                        |                                      |                                      | 400                   | D20                          | 3700                                 | 4099                                 |
|                        |                                      |                                      | 400                   | D21                          | 4100                                 | 4499                                 |
|                        |                                      |                                      | 400                   | D22                          | 4500                                 | +                                    |

The Rothwell Banding System is based on the ISO Total Absorbency and is used by some brands and nursing manuals to help users select the most appropriate product.

The scale measures the minimum and maximum ISO Total Absorbencies of the products, also providing an absorbency range. The Rothwell Band then ranks the products from lowest to highest absorbency, with a scale of 1-22. Insert, rectangular and shaped pads are identified by the prefix "I",

whilst all-in-ones and pants have a prefix “D”. For example, an incontinence pant with an absorbency of 1800ml would be ranked as a D15, whilst an insert pad with an absorbency of 250ml would be I4.

### **Working Absorbency**

The Working Absorbency is the amount of liquid the product will absorb during normal use, measured by weighing the pad before and after use. It is very variable, and depends on a range of factors including the health and physicality of the user, the type and fit of the incontinence product, the type of support underwear used, and the type of incontinence.

As a general rule, Working Absorbency is 30-50% of the ISO Total Absorbency. For example, an ISO capacity of 1000ml may have working capacity of 300-500ml. Many incontinence products feature a Wetness Indicator on the back of the pad to indicate how full the pad is – Most manufacturers recommend that the product is changed when the indicator is two thirds full, to ensure that the pad does not become damp, heavy and uncomfortable.

**We advertise all of our incontinence products with the ISO Total Absorbency.**

### **Droplet Scales**

Droplet scales provide the user with a quick and easy to use method of identifying the absorbency levels within a range of products. The more droplets that are filled, the more absorbent the product.

It is important to note however that different brands have different Droplet scales, and so comparing droplets across different brands may not show the same levels of absorbency. For example, 4 drops on an 8 drop scale may be medium absorbency, whilst 4 drops on 4 drop scale would be high absorbency.

To help you identify the absorbency levels of the products that we sell, please see below a list of our Disposable Incontinence Products by Molicare. This list identifies the Droplet Scale, Total Absorbency, Product Name, Product Type and Colour Codes used by Molicare. If you need further information please call our customer services team on 01952 913112.

### **MoliCare Absorbency Scale**

| <b>Droplets</b> | <b>Total Absorbency</b> | <b>Product Name</b>           | <b>Product Type</b> | <b>Pack Colour Code</b> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 out of 4      | 161 ml                  | Molinea Couche Insert Level 2 | Insert Pad          | Yellow                  |
|                 | 241 ml                  | Molinea Couche Insert Level 3 | Insert Pad          | Yellow                  |
|                 | 470 ml                  | MoliForm Soft Light           | Large Pad           | Yellow                  |
|                 | 550 ml                  | MoliForm Soft Normal          | Large Pad           | Yellow                  |
| 2 out of 4      | 140 ml                  | MoliMed Comfort Mini          | Small Pad           | Yellow                  |
|                 | 140 ml                  | MoliMed for Men Active        | Male Pad            | Grey                    |
|                 | 395 ml                  | MoliCare Mobile Light Small   | Pull Up Pant        | Green                   |
|                 | 395 ml                  | MoliCare Mobile Light Medium  | Pull Up Pant        | Green                   |
|                 | 489 ml                  | MoliCare Mobile Light Large   | Pull Up Pant        | Green                   |
|                 | 720 ml                  | MoliForm Soft Plus            | Large Pad           | Green                   |
|                 | 930 ml                  | MoliCare Soft Plus Small      | All-in-One          | Green                   |
| 3 out of 4      | 1350 ml                 | MoliCare Soft Plus Large      | All-in-One          | Green                   |
|                 | 200 ml                  | MoliMed for Men Protect       | Male Pad            | Grey                    |
|                 | 212 ml                  | MoliMed Comfort Midi          | Small Pad           | Yellow                  |

|              |                           |                              |              |        |
|--------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------|
|              | 621 ml                    | MoliCare Mobile X Small      | Pull Up Pant | Blue   |
|              | 680 ml                    | MoliCare Mobile Small        | Pull Up Pant | Blue   |
|              | 805 ml                    | MoliCare Mobile Medium       | Pull Up Pant | Blue   |
|              | 860 ml                    | MoliCare Soft Extra X Small  | All-in-One   | Blue   |
|              | 949 ml                    | MoliCare Mobile Large        | Pull Up Pant | Blue   |
|              | 960 ml                    | MoliForm Soft Extra          | Large Pad    | Blue   |
|              | 1000 ml                   | MoliForm Soft for Men        | Male Pad     | Grey   |
|              | 1040 ml                   | MoliCare Soft Extra Small    | All-in-One   | Blue   |
|              | 1110 ml                   | MoliCare Mobile X Large      | Pull Up Pant | Blue   |
|              | 1240 ml                   | MoliCare Soft Extra Medium   | All-in-One   | Blue   |
|              | 1430 ml                   | MoliCare Soft Extra Large    | All-in-One   | Blue   |
|              | 1600 ml                   | MoliCare Soft Extra X Large  | All-in-One   | Blue   |
| 3.5 out of 4 | 1110 ml                   | MoliForm Soft Maxi           | Large Pad    | Pink   |
|              | 1170 ml                   | MoliCare Soft Maxi Small     | All-in-One   | Pink   |
|              | 1440 ml                   | MoliCare Soft Maxi Medium    | All-in-One   | Pink   |
|              | 1630 ml                   | MoliCare Soft Maxi Large     | All-in-One   | Pink   |
| 4 out of 4   | 404 ml                    | MoliMed Comfort Maxi         | Small Pad    | Yellow |
|              | 847 ml                    | MoliCare Super Plus Small    | All-in-One   | Purple |
|              | 969 ml                    | MoliCare Mobile Super Small  | Pull Up Pant | Purple |
|              | 1089 ml                   | MoliCare Mobile Super Medium | Pull Up Pant | Purple |
|              | 1273 ml                   | MoliCare Mobile Super Large  | Pull Up Pant | Purple |
|              | 1360 ml                   | MoliForm Soft Super          | Large Pad    | Purple |
|              | 1360 ml                   | MoliCare Soft Super Small    | All-in-One   | Purple |
|              | 1435 ml                   | MoliCare Super Plus Medium   | All-in-One   | Purple |
|              | 1585 ml                   | MoliCare Super Plus Large    | All-in-One   | Purple |
|              | 1770 ml                   | MoliCare Soft Super Medium   | All-in-One   | Purple |
| 1870 ml      | MoliCare Soft Super Large | All-in-One                   | Purple       |        |