

When traveling with ALFESS functional electrical stimulation (FES) devices for foot drop, it is important to consider various aspects to ensure a smooth and safe journey.

key points to take note of:

1. Medical Clearance and Documentation:

Obtain a letter from your healthcare provider detailing your medical condition, the necessity of the FES device, and its safety for use on the flight.

If possible, have a copy of the prescription for the FES device.

2. Contact the Airline:

Inform the airline about the FES device at least 48 hours before your flight. This can help in arranging any necessary accommodations and ensures the device can be used on board.

Ask about specific policies regarding medical devices and whether any additional documentation is required. Take a note of who you spoke to and the time and duration of the call.

3. Packing the Device:

Carry the FES device in your carry-on luggage to avoid loss or damage in checked baggage.

Include spare parts, batteries, and chargers. Ensure that batteries are compliant with airline regulations (lithium-ion, has specific rules).

4. Security Screening:

At security checkpoints, notify the security personnel about the FES device.

Be prepared to undergo additional screening if necessary. Have your documentation readily available to explain the device.

5. Using the Device Onboard:

Follow the airline's instructions for the use of electronic devices during the flight. FES devices should generally be permitted, but it's essential to comply with any requests from the flight crew.

Bring a power bank or ensure your device is fully charged, as in-seat power may not always be available.

6. Comfort and Mobility:

Request an aisle seat, if possible, which provides more space to maneuver and is easier for trips to the restroom.

7. Customs and Immigration:

Be prepared to show documentation for the FES device if asked by customs or immigration officials.

If traveling internationally, research and understand the destination country's policies on medical devices.

8. Travel Insurance:

Consider purchasing travel insurance that covers medical devices and any potential medical issues that might arise during the trip.

9. Emergency Contacts:

Have a list of emergency contacts, including your healthcare provider and the manufacturer of the FES device, in case you encounter any issues.

By following these guidelines, traveling with FES devices for foot drop can help ensure a smooth and stress-free experience.