

Wunzi™ System: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



Before we get started: The answers below are generalized for a wide audience, and may not apply specifically to your child or client.

Important: All TheraTogs products must be prescribed and their use supervised under the direction of a qualified health care professional. TheraTogs are designed for daily home and clinical use, but they are not off-the-shelf products; do not use without the supervision of a therapist or rehab clinician.

Q#1. What’s a “Wunzi”?

Great question! The *Wunzi* is the exciting new TheraTogs system for infants, designed to help children from birth to 24 months who need postural support, sensorimotor input, or neuromotor retraining. The *Wunzi* is easy to dress on the child, and simple for caregivers to use; it’s designed to fit just like the common “onesie” garment that many infants wear. (That’s where we got the idea for the product name, in fact.) The *Wunzi* is the *only* neuromotor retraining system made specifically for infants.

All *Wunzi* garments and components are latex-free, by the way.

Q#2. How do I know if a *Wunzi* may be a suitable option for my child or client?

Birth to age three is the most critical time to address any signs of developmental delay, and a trained therapist or an alert caregiver can recognize signs of delay compared to early baby milestones. (Neuromotor development is directly linked to *sensorimotor* development, as well.)

A *Wunzi* is appropriate if your child or client is less than 24 months old, and presents one or more of the following:

- Difficulty holding the body or head symmetrically
- Inability to hold the head, trunk, or hip position steady
- Inability to regain balance during normal movements
- Low muscle tone, sagging or “floppiness” through the trunk
- Responds favorably to being hugged and held in more age-appropriate postures.

Simply put, if motor or sensory development delays are identified, the *Wunzi* is an appropriate management option.

Q#3. What are the clinical diagnoses or indications that a *Wunzi* can be used for?

Here’s a list of the primary ones:

- Hypotonia
- Cerebellar Ataxia
- Diplegic Cerebral Palsy
- Hemiplegic Cerebral Palsy
- Athetosis
- Torticollis
- Brachial Plexus Injury
- Developmental Delay

Q#4. In what ways can the Wunzi help my child or client?

For such a simple garment system, the Wunzi can deliver a surprisingly wide range of benefits:

- Increased sensory awareness – by providing proprioceptive input in a comfortable ‘wearable hug’.
- Improved postural alignment – through constant queuing of lax trunk muscles and ligaments, training them to operate in shorter, more functional lengths.
- Gentle control for excessive trunk instability – from the dynamic postural support built into the fabric.
- Improved respiration and vocalization – gained by reducing flexible kyphosis and improving posture.
- Better functional alignment of the hips and shoulders, and stabilized scapulae – by gently positioning the joints and musculoskeletal structure with a customized and adjustable fit.

These are many of the same benefits that physical therapy sessions are designed to provide – but the Wunzi allows the child to *wear* his or her improvements all day long, for thousands of repetitions during essential developmental stages. The Wunzi gives extensive, daily “carry-over” from therapy sessions – in the comfort of the baby’s home environment.

Q#5. How do I locate a therapist who has experience working with TheraTogs?

TheraTogs are used by therapists worldwide without formal product training because the systems embody standard rehabilitation principles. In effect, the therapist uses TheraTogs the same way she uses her hands in a rehab session. The Wunzi, in particular, can be used effectively by any qualified rehab clinician who works with children.

Q#6. Is there a way that I can evaluate my child or client in a Wunzi to determine if it should be part of the treatment plan before we buy?

Yes, there certainly is! Call us at 800-827-8283 for more information.

Q#7. In what sizes is Wunzi available?

The Wunzi is available in five sizes designed to fit children weighing ~7 to 26 pounds (~3 to 12 Kg), with an age range from birth through approximately 24 months.

Q#8. How do I measure my child or client for a Wunzi?

The TheraTogs Sizing Chart lists the measurements for each size of Wunzi system. In addition to age and weight, you’ll need to know the infant’s girth (belly circumference at the naval) and torso length (see the chart for an illustration). It’s best if you include your completed Sizing Chart with your order, if possible.

Note: Because the Wunzi is available worldwide, measurements are listed in centimeters (cm), not inches. Most tape measures indicate both centimeters and inches.

Q#9. Will insurance pay for the Wunzi?

It depends: TheraTogs systems like the Wunzi can be reimbursable, but there are a number of variables to consider. Medicaid insurance funding varies from state to state, and private insurance funding varies from policy to policy. (For example, California’s MediCal program is currently providing funding for TheraTogs systems, including the Wunzi, but under certain conditions.) If your child has insurance funding or medical coverage, we suggest that you contact your coverage advisor, your therapist, or your local orthotist (O&P) or durable medical equipment (DME) dealer to discuss your options.

Q#10. What about providing for growth? If I purchase a second or third Wunzi will I get a discount? We suggest you raise this question with the distributor or provider with whom you're working.

Q#11. Will I receive dressing and use instructions with the Wunzi?

The base Wunzi system is so simple, no DVD is needed – but there are basic instructions provided in the package. The optional Wunzi Limb Kit (a separate product) also includes illustrated diagrams and instructions for more advanced strapping applications. (And if you get stuck, contact Clinical Support.)

Q#12. Will Wunzi go on over a diaper? Is it meant for daily use?

The Wunzi is specifically designed to be used over a diaper – in fact, DON'T use the Wunzi without one! The cozy foam surface is gentle on an infant's skin. The unique composite stretch fabric is meant to be worn as many hours a day as needed, in comfort.

Q#13. Is it easy to dress on my child?

Not to worry: the Wunzi was specifically designed to be easy to use, and it mimics the common “onesie” infant garment you're probably already familiar with. The Velcro® “tabs” embedded into the foam underside of the garment provide instant closure and easy adjustments for a snug fit – no buttons, no snaps, no zippers. Getting the infant dressed is as easy as 1-2-3:

1. Place the baby on the back panel of the garment.
2. Lay the front piece on the chest.
3. Close the system with the Velcro tabs.

It's quick and simple, even when dressing a determined “wiggle-worm” of a child.

Q#14. If I need to address more than posture and torso alignment, are there additional strapping options available?

Yes, the separate Wunzi Limb Kit strapping system for lower or upper extremity positioning is also available for purchase from the distributor or provider where you obtain your Wunzi base system. Clinicians can contact Clinical Support for more information about the use of the Limb Kit.

Q#15. My child/client has a G-tube - can I use a Wunzi with it?

You certainly can. The Wunzi is made from our patented and exclusive GoldTone™ material, which can be trimmed or perforated without fraying or losing its function. You can even use the Velcro-sensitive garment surface to secure the G-tube in place.

Q#16. How do I care for and maintain my Wunzi?

The Wunzi system is machine washable on the gentle cycle, and must be washed (without detergent) at least weekly. Be careful handling the garments when they are wet; the same properties that make the foam so soft and gentle also make it easy to ‘nick’ or chip the foam when the material is wet. Complete Wunzi care and washing instructions in English are included with your system.

Q#17. Can I order extra Wunzi front and/or back pieces so one can be used while the other is being washed?

The base Wunzi system is so simple and low-cost that there actually aren't any separate parts available for purchase. However, your distributor or provider may give you a discount for multiple purchases; talk to them about this when placing your order.

Q#18. Does the Wunzi have a warranty?

Yes, our standard manufacturer's warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship for six months from the first date of use. A printed copy of the warranty policy is included with your order. Warranty issues for TheraTogs are rare, but if an issue arises please contact us directly for warranty support. Warranty becomes void when purchased in any one country and shipped for use in another country.

Important: Please note that the Wunzi is designed for use with very young children, and is available in a series of increasing sizes. Growth of the child - and the need for a larger size system - is not considered a warranty issue, even if such need occurs within the six month warranty period of the original system purchase.