suggestions the muscles would be more prone to spasticity. Thus, the ability of these footplate modifications to reduce spasticity in post-stroke hemiplegia can be reasonably questioned.

**Summary**

While the basic benefits of AFOs for patients with hemiplegia due to stroke have been fairly well established, the specific design variables of the orthoses and presentation characteristics of the subjects have historically been poorly described and controlled. Fortunately, several recent publications have begun to delve into the details, providing insight into the potential effects of specific AFO design variables in more narrowly defined patient presentations. As this trend continues, the published literature will better guide clinicians as they create their treatment plans for individual patients.

**References**