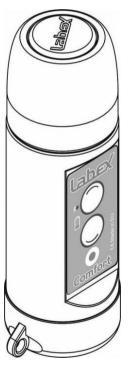
#### LABEX<sup>™</sup> COMFORT ELECTROLARYNX

## **USER MANUAL**







## OVERVIEW

## 1. What is Labex Comfort

Labex Comfort is a digital electrolarynx device. It is specially designed to help laryngectomees talk. Its main feature is the two individually configurable talk buttons.

Labex Comfort is a CLASS I medical device.

General principle of operation for all models electrolarynges manufactured by Labex Trade Ltd.:

The digital electrolarynx produces mechanical vibrations with a low sound frequency between 60-195 Hz. Applied to the neck, these vibrations create trembling in the oral cavity compensating for the energy generated from the lungs.

The combination of starting and stopping sound vibrations and oral articulation creates comprehensible speech.

## 2. In the box

In the box, you will find everything you need to start using the device:

- Labex Comfort electrolarynx device;
- 2 batteries 9V rechargeable Li-Ion;
- Two socket smart charger;
- "Labex" lanyard;
- User manual;
- Warranty card.

## 3. Parts and buttons

Labex Comfort consists of several main components:

1) Top Cap – The part which you press against your neck to receive the sound.

2) Talk Button 1 – Press it to produce sound. It can be configured with its own unique volume and pitch.

Talk Button 2 – Press
 to produce sound. It
 can be configured with

its own unique volume and pitch.

4) Settings Button – Used for changing the settings.

5) LED Indicator – Lights up when one of the Talk buttons is pressed.

6) Battery Indicator – Lights up when the battery needs charging.

7) Battery Cover – Used to secure the battery inside the device.

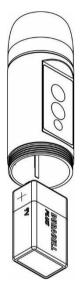
**NOTE:** The actuator buttons are sensitive. They require about 160 grams of force to make contact. Please avoid pushing them with extreme force. Doing so could damage your device.

## **GETTING STARTED**

## 4. Basic use

You need to insert the battery into the device to turn it on. Take one battery of the two included in the package, and carefully remove the transparencies. Unscrew the Battery Cover of the device. Insert the battery minding the polarity. Make sure that the "+" and "-" signs of the battery and the device match. Swivel the Battery Cover back to the device.

**NOTE:** Inserting the battery incorrectly will not damage the device, but it will not work.



Press the Top Cap of the device firmly against the neck and then hold Talk Button 1 or Talk Button 2 to speak. The device will start to emit sound. This allows the proper function of the product.

## 5. Finding the sweet spot

A sweet spot is called a place on the throat area where you feel the sound from the electrolarynx transmits through the neck tissue and out of the oral cavity with the most clarity.

The easiest way to find your sweet spot is by tightly pressing the electrolarynx Top Cap in different locations on your neck area and articulating a single vowel while pressing one of the Talk Buttons.

What you are looking for is the place on your neck, which best transmits the sound. While looking for a sweet spot, it is crucial that you press the device tightly against your neck tissue so the sound transmits through the tissue and out of the oral cavity. **Take your time finding your sweet spot** – this is the most important part of learning to use an electrolarynx. Finding just the right place will set you up for success.

## 6. First Words

After you have pinpointed the desired spot, you can start making some basic sounds. It is crucial to over-articulate every sound with your mouth until you feel comfortable. After that, you can start practicing short words. Slowly work your way up to sentences and conversation.

In some cases, talking can be achieved in a month, in other cases, it can take only 3 days.

For a more detailed guide, please check our blog:

https://labextrade.com/tips-for-usingelectrolarynx/

# **S**ETTINGS

## 7. How to change the volume

You can adjust the volume of each Talk Button individually. To do so, follow this procedure:

• Press and hold the Talk Button which volume you want to adjust (Talk Button 1 or Talk Button 2).

- While holding the desired Talk Button, press and hold the Settings Button. The sound will stop, and the red LED will start blinking.
- Keep both buttons pressed.
- After a few seconds, the device will start buzzing on its own. Release all buttons. The device is now in "Volume setup mode."
- Now you can use Talk Button 1 to increase the volume, or Talk Button 2 to decrease the volume.
- When you reach your desired volume, press the Settings Button to confirm. The device will automatically save your choice.

**NOTE**: You can assign a different volume for each Talk Button.

## 8. How to change the pitch

You can adjust the pitch of each Talk Button individually. To do so, follow this procedure:

- Press and hold the Settings Button. The LED Indicator will light up in green.
- While holding the Settings Button, press and hold the Talk Button which pitch you want to adjust (Talk Button 1 or Talk Button 2).
- Keep both buttons pressed. The red LED will start blinking.
- After a few seconds, the device will start emitting sound on its own. Release all buttons. The device is now in "Pitch setup mode."
- Now you can use Talk Button 1 to increase the pitch, or Talk Button 2 to decrease the pitch.
- When you reach your desired pitch level, press the Settings Button to confirm. The device will automatically save your choice.

**NOTE:** You can assign a different pitch level for each Talk Button.

# 9. How to reset all settings to factory values

If you want to revert the device to its factory default volume & pitch follow these steps:

- Press and hold all buttons starting from the top - Talk Button 1, Talk Button 2, and the Settings Button.
- Keep holding all three buttons pressed.
  The red Battery Indicator will start flashing very quickly.
- Continue to hold all buttons until the Battery Indicator lights up in solid red. The LED Indicator will light up in green when the process is completed.
- Release all buttons and wait 3-4 seconds. All settings have been reset to the factory default values.

Check our website for video tutorials.

https://labextrade.com/comfort/

## BATTERY

## 10. Low battery

Labex Comfort has a built-in battery indicator, which will warn you when the battery level is low. When the battery charge goes down to 20%, the Battery Indicator will start blinking after every release of a speech button. When the battery drains down to 10%, the Battery Indicator will light up in solid red. At this point, you should recharge your battery, or replace it with a fully charged one.

## 11. Different batteries

There are two high-capacity Li-Ion batteries included with your Labex Comfort. This will allow you to always have a fully charged battery on hand. However, Labex Comfort is compatible with all 9V batteries on the market – rechargeable or non-rechargeable.

## 12. Charging the battery

After you remove your drained battery, you should charge it with the included intelligent charger:

- 1) Put the battery inside the charger, minding the polarity, i.e. the "+" and the "-".
- 2) Put the charger into an electrical socket.
- 3) The corresponding red LED will light up, meaning the battery is currently charging.
- 4) The red LED will turn off when the battery is fully charged.

**NOTE:** The included intelligent charger will NEVER overcharge your batteries.

WARNING: Do not try to charge ANY other kind of battery with the charger! The charger is designed ONLY for Lithium-Ion batteries! Trying to charge any other kind of battery will result in permanent damage to the battery and the charger!

**NOTE**: If you find that the battery can not hold a charge for more than one hour of use with your device, it may be near the end of its life cycle. If

this happens, we advise you to recycle this battery and get a new one.

**NOTE:** If the battery temperature is over 45 °C the charging process will be temporarily stopped until the battery cools below 45°C. This protects the battery. If the charger or the battery is exposed to direct sunlight, move it to a cooler place. The charging will continue after the battery cools down.

## **CARING FOR YOUR DEVICE**

## 13. Cleaning and maintenance

Please mind that due to its principle of use, the device is in constant contact with the skin and various substances. Thus, it should be cleaned at least once every 24 hours. Build-up dust and dirt can be the cause of malfunctioning the device.

For the best hygiene practices, the following procedure should be followed:

• Clean the outside surfaces of the device with a slightly wet soft microfiber cloth.

- After cleaning all surfaces, you can disinfect the device by applying a small amount of disinfectant gel or alcohol. Alternatively, alcohol wipes can be used.
- Wipe the device with a soft microfiber cloth again.

#### 14. Water resistance

Labex Comfort can withstand being used in the rain or cleaned with a damp cloth. However, submerging the unit in water will damage the device and will void your warranty.

## 15. Contact information

LABEX TRADE LTD. VAT # BG203819149 Address: 59 Sankt Peterburg Blvd., Floor 6, office 604, 4017 Plovdiv, Bulgaria, European Union T: +359 32 54 9090, M: +359 878 616 711

Information & orders: sales@labextrade.com

#### 16. Assistance

- You can find the relevant information on the self-assist page: <u>https://labextrade.com/self-assistance-</u> comfort/
- Submit a ticket at <u>http://support.labextrade.com</u>
- Questions on website and online orders: <u>admin@labextrade.com</u>

For more information visit https://labextrade.com

#### 17. Technical specifications

General parameters	Labex Comfort
Adjustable pitch	Yes
Adjustable volume	Yes
Pitch range	55-155 Hz
Volume range	60 - 83 dB
Speech time per charge	4h*
Full charge time	4,5 h with Labex charger
Mechanical buttons	3
Speech buttons	2
* Depending on pitch and volume selected.	
Physical parameters	Labex Comfort
Diam x Length	Ø 34 x 98 mm
Weight	72 g without battery, 100 g with
	battery
Body material	ABS
Dust resistive	Yes
Moisture resistive	Yes
IP Standart	IP52**
** Only for reference.	
Features	Labex Comfort
Automatic low battery	Yes, 2 levels
warning	
Charge finished indication	Yes
Lanyard holder	Yes
Lanyard	Yes
Power charger	Discrete

Charger type	2 slots charging station
Connector type	6F22
Charge current	80 mA for 1 battery, 50 mA each for 2 batteries
Battery info	Labex Comfort
Capacity	600 mAh
Battery type	9V 6F22 Li-Ion, exchangeable
Batteries in the package	2 pcs
Rechargeable	Yes
Protection	Smart electronics
Battery cell manufacturer	EBL, Taiwan
Battery recharge life cycles	More than 500
Warranty conditions	Labex Comfort
Duration	2 years limited warranty ***
Post-warranty repairs	In the factory
*** For the unit only, it does not cover batteries and chargers.	

## INFORMATION

#### 18. Warnings

• Do not submerge the device underwater. Do not wash the device under running water. This will potentially damage the device.

- Do not try to disassemble the device under any circumstances. This will permanently void your warranty.
- Do not use any third-party or rechargeable batteries. Use the original ones provided in the box. Using any other charging equipment could potentially damage the battery or the device.
- Do not insert any part of the electrolarynx or any accessories into the stoma.
- Do not burn or physically damage the battery.
- Do not short-circuit a cell or battery.
- Do not charge your battery if its temperature is below 0°C.
- The device contains a strong magnet that may interfere with pacemakers or other implantable devices. Consult with your physician before use.

## 19. Safe storage:

- Store in a dark and dry place.
- Store the device and its accessories in its original box.
- It is recommended to recharge the battery every 6 months when the device is stored for a longer period. This guarantees the life of the battery.
- Store in temperatures between -20°C to +45°C.

## 20. Limited Warranty Conditions

This Limited Warranty covers any defects in material or workmanship under normal use of the device, according to the User Manual during the Warranty Period.

During the Warranty Period, Labex Trade Ltd. will repair or replace, at no charge, products or parts of a product that proves defective because of Labex Comfort User Manual, Date: 15 February 2021, # 21 improper material or workmanship, under normal use and maintenance.

#### This Limited Warranty is not transferable.

Due to the nature of the electrolarynges and the principle of their use, the device is not intended to be used by multiple people, shared use, and second-hand use. Because of the contact of the device to the user's neck, stoma, or other cavities - the device is for personal use only! Thus the Limited Warranty provided by Labex Trade Ltd. is non-transferable.

#### Duration of the coverage

The Warranty Period for Labex<sup>™</sup> electrolarynges is two years from the date of purchase. A fully replaced or repaired electrolarynx remains in the warranty period.

#### The warranty does not cover

The external batteries as well as the chargers, because it is not possible to guarantee if the customer uses them as described in the UM.

This Limited Warranty does not cover any problem that is caused by:

- Conditions, malfunctions, or damage not resulting from defects in material or workmanship.
- Conditions, malfunctions, or damage resulting from negligence, improper maintenance, or unauthorized modification.
- Damaged or destroyed by natural causes including but not limited to lightning, flood, or another natural disaster.
- Theft or loss of the electrolarynx.

Trying to open or repair the device; causing extensive shock damage (dropping it, hitting it against other objects, etc.); or liquid damaging it (submerging in water or other chemicals).

Shipping charges as well as the risk of loss or damage to the electrolarynx while in transit to Labex Trade Ltd. are taken care of by the Labex Comfort User Manual, Date: 15 February 2021, # 23 customer. The back shipping is covered by the Company.

Please read the warranty card. To learn more about the Labex warranty, please visit https://labextrade.com/warranty-policy/

If you have any problems with your device, contact your distributor or check for a possible solution at <u>https://labextrade.com/self-assistance/</u>

# 21. Information on Disposal for Users of WEEE:

The symbol on the product box and/or accompanying documents means that used electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) should not be mixed with general household waste. For proper treatment, recovery, and recycling, please take this product(s) to designated collection points where it will be accepted free of charge. Alternatively, in some countries, you may be able to return your products to your local retailer upon the purchase

of an equivalent new product. Disposing of this product correctly will help save valuable resources and prevent any potential negative effects on human health and the environment, which could otherwise arise from inappropriate waste handling. Please contact your local authority for further details of your nearest designated collection point. Penalties may be applicable for incorrect disposal of this waste, following your national legislation.

For professional users in the European Union, if you wish to discard electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), please contact your dealer or supplier for further information.

For disposal in countries outside of the European Union: This symbol is only valid in the European Union (EU). If you wish to discard this product, please contact your local authorities or dealer and ask for the correct method of disposal.