

# BIOFREEZE™

COOL THE PAIN



Available in over  
60 countries &  
26 languages

**Effective cold  
therapy pain relief.**

The innovative product in gel and spray form relieves muscle and joint pain based on the beneficial properties of Cryotherapy - The Cold Method<sup>®</sup>



## Pain relief that works® for:

- Muscle Aches and Spasms
- Pain in Waist, Back, Shoulder, Neck, Knee, Hip, Elbow and Ankle
- Arthritis and Tendinitis Pain
- Sore Muscles
- Pain from Injury during Sports and Exercise
- Painful Sprains, Strains, Bumps, Pulls and Bruises

## Ingredients

Isopropyl Alcohol, Menthol & Herbal Extract (Ilex Paraguariensis).  
Camphor, Carbomer, Glycerine, Methylparaben, Propylene Glycol,  
Silicon Dioxide, Water, Triethanolamine, FD&C yellow #5, FD&C blue # 1.

## Biofreeze® Pain Reliever delivers cold relief

### Clinically proven Cryotherapy made convenient

It has long been established that cold therapy, or "cryotherapy", decreases pain and reduces inflammation. Biofreeze Pain Reliever is a topical analgesic that delivers the therapeutic benefits of cryotherapy in an effective, easy-to-use formula, through USP\*- grade ingredients for proven analgesic effectiveness<sup>1</sup>. Clinical evidence\* attests to the effectiveness of Biofreeze Pain Reliever and accounts for its standing as the #1 clinically used and recommended topical analgesic by hands on health care professionals in USA.



(\*USP: An indicator of quality

The United States Pharmacopeia (USP) sets standards to ensure the quality of medications, food ingredients, and healthcare products. Biofreeze Pain Reliever is formulated with USP-grade menthol, camphor, isopropyl alcohol, and water. Our choice of USP-grade ingredients distinguishes Biofreeze Pain Reliever from other topical analgesics and is testimony to our commitment to quality.

(\*\*) **Bishop B et al. 2011.** Effects of Biofreeze vs. ice on acute, non-complicated neck pain (Abstract) *Clinical Chiropractic* 14(4):153-54 • **Brosky JA et al. 2012.** Effect of 3.5% menthol gel on knee pain and functioning in patients with knee osteoarthritis (Abstract) *J Orthop Sports Phys Ther* 42(1):A106-7 • **Johar et al. 2012.** A comparison of topical menthol to ice on pain, evoked tetanic and voluntary force during delayed onset muscle soreness. *Int J Sports Phys Ther.* 7(3):314-22. • **Olive JL et al. 2010.** Vascular conductance is reduced after menthol or cold application *Clin J Sport Med* 20(5):372-6. • **Topp R et al. 2011.** Effect of topical menthol on ipsilateral and contralateral superficial blood flow following a bout of maximum voluntary muscle contraction. *Int J Sports Phys Ther* 6(2):83-91 • **Topp R et al. 2011.** Comparison of the effects of ice and 3.5% menthol gel on blood flow and muscle strength of the lower arm *J Sport Rehabil* 20:355-366 • **Zhang J et al. 2008.** Effects of Biofreeze and chiropractic adjustments on acute low back pain: a pilot study *J Chiropractic Med* 7:59-65

## Mechanism of action

### The counter - irritant / Gate Control Theory

Traditional thinking is that the pain-relieving mechanism of action of menthol, an ingredient in Biofreeze Pain Reliever, results from a counter-irritant effect. Simply put, a counter-irritant has an effect of overriding noxious pain signals traveling to the brain through a process modulated between pain-transmitting and non-pain transmitting neurons. This process, known as “gate control” or “gating,” was first described by Melzack and Wall.<sup>2</sup>

Gate control theory is based on the understanding that pain is transmitted by two kinds of afferent nerve fibers. One is the larger myelinated A-delta fiber, which carries quick, intense-pain messages. The other is the smaller, unmyelinated “C” fiber, which transmits throbbing, chronic pain. A third type of nerve fiber, called A-beta, is “nonnociceptive,” meaning it does not transmit pain stimuli. The gate control theory asserts that signals transmitted by the A-delta and C pain fibers can be thwarted by the activation/stimulation of the nonnociceptive A-beta fibers and thus inhibit an individual’s perception of pain.

More recently, researchers have discovered that menthol further stimulates the TRPM8 cold receptors. Even though it has long been accepted that cooling and cold can induce analgesia, the mechanism has been poorly understood. Now, as scientists have continued to isolate these specific heat-sensitive transient receptor potential (TRP) channels within our sensory neurons we are now able to have a much better understanding of the body’s cutaneous temperature detection. With the isolation and further study of these specific TRPM8 receptors there is stronger evidence supporting the benefits achieved with the cooling effect of menthol in functioning as a topical analgesic while activating these receptors and the resulting consequent pain relief.



## Like ice, only better

### The pain - relieving power of menthol

Ice is the time-honored means of effectively delivering cryotherapy, but ice does have disadvantages. It can cause muscle stiffness, skin irritation, temporary pain and numbness, and it generally requires the patient to remain stationary.

Biofreeze Pain Reliever has been shown to be as effective as ice without the disadvantages.<sup>3</sup> Like ice, Biofreeze Pain Reliever reduces pain and inflammation. One study determined that blood flow decreased in the radial artery five minutes after Biofreeze Pain Reliever was applied to the forearm; 20 minutes were required for ice to induce the same result. While Biofreeze reduced blood flow much quicker than ice, the reduction lasted longer in the ice condition. This quick reduction may be a great benefit in the very acute stages of injury, but more research is needed.<sup>4</sup> In another study, patients with bilateral neck pain preferred, by an 8-to-1 margin, treatment with Biofreeze Pain Reliever to treatment with ice, and nine out of ten patients felt that Biofreeze Pain Reliever was twice as effective and that relief lasted longer, compared to ice.<sup>5</sup>

The short-term pain relief provided by Biofreeze Pain Reliever facilitates ease of movement, which can promote faster, long-term healing and recovery. It may be used to control pain during therapy and by patients and clients, at home or on-the-go. When used before exercise and/or therapy, Biofreeze Pain Reliever promotes pain-free movement. After activity, Biofreeze Pain Reliever soothes sore muscles and joints.<sup>6</sup>

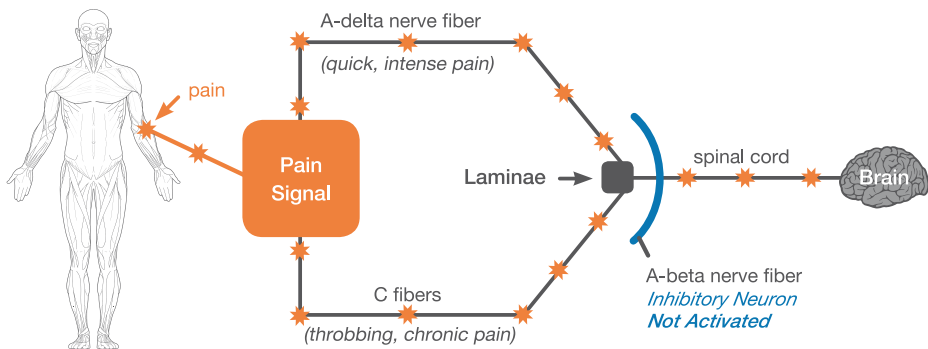
## References

1. Galeotti N, DiCesare Mannelli L, Mazzanti G, Bartolini A, Ghelardini C. Menthol: a natural analgesic compound. *Neuro science Letters*. 2002 Apr 12; 322(3): 145-8.
2. Melzack R, Wall PD. Pain mechanisms: a new theory. *Science*. 1965 Nov 19; 150(699): 971-9.
3. Topp et al. Effects of menthol on skeletal muscle blood flow.
4. Topp R, Winchester LJ, Sannes SH, Mink AM, Kaufman JS, Jacks DE. A comparison of Biofreeze and ice on blood flow, pain and muscle function.
5. Bishop B, Greenstein J, Topp R. Effects of Biofreeze vs. ice on acute, non-complicated neck pain.
6. Sarabon N. Reports on the first observations on Biofreeze topical analgesic in Slovenian professional sports practice.
7. Stanos S. Overview of topical analgesics. *Pain Medicine News*. 2009 Feb: 1-6.

### The Melzack-Wall Pain Gate

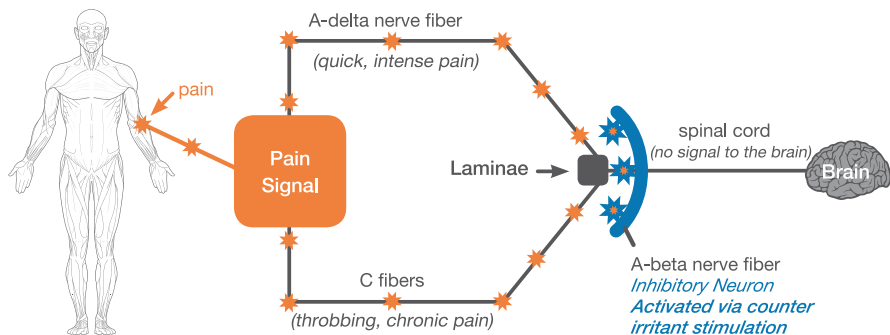
The brain's perception of pain depends on the interaction—within the laminae of the spinal cord—of C and A-delta nerve fibers (pain-transmitting) with A-beta nerve fibers (non-pain-transmitting). Stimulating the A-beta nerve fibers ultimately activates the inhibitory interneuron and “closes the gate” to pain.

#### Pain is Perceived



#### Pain is NOT Perceived

Apply Biofreeze to painful area



BIOFREEZE

Pain relief that works

## Cold therapy for every setting

A natural, targeted route to relief

**Patient care:** Apply Biofreeze Pain Reliever before, during, and after treatment or therapy to further enhance your level of hands-on professional care. Likewise, recommend Biofreeze Pain Reliever as part of your patient's or client's in-home treatment plan. Such as:

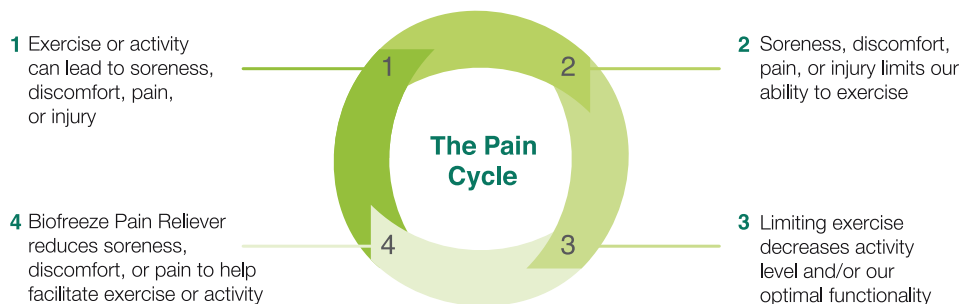
- Adjunctive modality with therapies
- Orthotics
- Graston Technique®\*
- Spinal Decompression

### Pain management:

Patients and clients heal more slowly when pain hinders their ability to perform rehabilitation therapies and exercises. Biofreeze Pain Reliever, massaged into sore muscles and joints, can make it easier for your patients and clients to fully participate in treatment sessions. By delivering fast pain relief, Biofreeze Pain Reliever can aid in your treatment of injuries and chronic problems that traditionally call for ice and breathable wraps.

(\*) Graston Technique is a registered trademark of the Graston Corporation

## How Biofreeze Pain Reliever manages the Pain Cycle



**Exercise and training:** Biofreeze Pain Reliever can aid exercise and training - and ease the sometimes uncomfortable after effects - by relieving pain to increase range of motion. Apply Biofreeze Pain Reliever before exercise to take soreness out of muscles and/or after cool-down routines to minimize next-day aches and pains. For sore muscles, apply directly to the area before and/or after exercise. Combine with massage, as needed.

### Dosage - How to use

**Adults:** Apply to the affected area up to 4 times a day.

**Children:** Ask for medical advice before use.

**Pregnancy:** Ask for medical advice before use



## Evidence encourages the use of topical analgesics

### The trend is toward targeted relief

Today, throughout the pain management community, the shift is toward the use of topical analgesics and away from systemic pain relievers. Fueling this trend is evidence-based research linking currently available systemic pain relievers to adverse events.<sup>7</sup> NSAIDs, COX-2 inhibitors, and opioids can affect the gastrointestinal tract, heart, kidneys, and other organs, as well as cognition.

Conversely, topical analgesics, such as Biofreeze Pain Reliever, deliver targeted pain relief with low levels of systemic absorption and therefore less risk for systemic toxicity and/or drug interaction. Pain-management clinicians are encouraged to consider and recommend topical analgesics as effective, safer alternatives to systemic medications.<sup>7</sup>

### One effective pain reliever in three different formats



- **Roll-On:** Roller application allows effective delivery of Biofreeze gel to smaller muscles and joints throughout the body. The massaging action of the roller ball can be used to stimulate trigger points in the affected area.
- **Spray:** Biofreeze Cryospray<sup>®</sup> permits easy, effective application without direct body contact, helping patients at home gain access to hard-to-reach body areas such as the back.
- **Gel:** Gel-dispensing tube is particularly well-suited for hands-on massage applications (particularly larger muscles and joints).

