# Comparison of DBS Brace(s) vs. Conventional Bracing

| Feature | DBS Brace(s) | Conventional Bracing |
|---|---|---|
| Control in Swing Phase | Yes | Yes |
| Control in Stance Phase | Yes | No |
| Control in which planes? | sagittal, coronal, rotary | sagittal & limited coronal, NO rotary control |
| Orthotic correction of foot mechanics (if needed) | Yes | Rarely, depends on orthotist |
| Foot plate ends ..... | Beyond end of toes (can also then make up for difference in shoe size) | Just behind or at metatarsal heads |
| Support for knee | Pretibial (in front of knee)<br>Medial & Lateral if KAFO (but knee joint unlocked) | Calf & Posterior (sometimes also in front of knee with “knee cage”), locked or unlocked knee joint, offset knee joint, popliteal strap to control excessive hyperextension |
| Gait Training | Always part of process | Usually not done |
| Correction of deformity -- foot, ankle, knee | Yes, if no bony fusion | Limited |
| Planned remodeling of deformity over time | Yes, if no bony fusion | No |

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|---|---|---|
| Brace can be flexed/bent with less than 30 lbs. force | No | Frequently (esp. lightweight Polypro) |
| Cost | Cost based on complexity. AFO $5,500 to $10,000 each; KAFO $10,000 to $15,000 each | AFOs $500 to $1500 each; KAFOs $3,000 to $5,000 each |
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