

# **Alternating Foot Bath**

### DEFINITION

Immersion of feet alternately in hot and in cold water.

#### MATERIALS NEEDED

- 1. Two containers (such as large plastic pails)
- 2. Bath thermometer (if possible)
- 3. Cloth for compress if needed

#### PROCEDURE

- 1. Place feet in hot water 105-110° F. Do not exceed 120° F. Immerse feet and leg up to mid-calf for 3 minutes.
- 2. Now change feet to container with cold water 45° F for 30 seconds.
- 3. Make 3 complete changes.
- 4. With arthritis, end with hot water. For all other conditions, finish with cold water.
- 5. If you start sweating, put a cold compress to the head.
- 6. Dry thoroughly and carefully.
- 7. Rest in bed for about 30 minutes.

## PRECAUTIONS

Water temperature should not exceed 103° F in Peripheral Vascular disease or in advanced insulin dependent diabetes.

\*This treatment should increase blood flow to the area and help reduce swelling and pain.

