

Nordic Walking/Hiking Poles **Activator® Poles** Strapless Ergonomic **Core**Grip™ Handle Straps & for core strengthening and to thin handle. reduce the risk of injury. **Extended** Wrist Position. **Core Strengthening:** downward pressure on strap Secure locking system weight bearing capacity 200 lb per pole Twist lock and Flip locking mechanism with limited weight bearing capacity. Anti-vibration features **Anti-Vibration:** May or may not have any. Adjustable in length No tips. small tips, or boot tips for positioning poles on a diagonal for fitness use. Bell-shaped tips for stability

For the past 5 years I have consistently recommended the Activator® poles to patients in my surgical practice. They have been especially helpful for spinal stenosis patients who have undergone surgical decompression and extension osteotomy patients who have had surgery for positive sagittal balance. They rehabilitation and return patients to optimal function faster.

Charles G. Fisher,

MD MHSc FRCSC,
Surgery of the Spine
Past President of the Canadian Spinal Society



Meet Mandy Shintani internationally recognized OT & Gerontologist as she reviews many of the Activator® benefits for both pre- & post- surgery and beyond.





## \(\ctivator^\\\ advantage













	Activator® Poles	Nordic Walking/Hiking Poles
Straps	Strapless for injury prevention (Knobloch, 2006)	Straps
Grip	Ergonomic CoreGrip™	Thin handle
Wrist	Neutral	Extended
Weight bearing	200 lb/pole (90 kg)	20-40 lb/pole (9-18 kg)
Core Strengthening	Downward pressure on CoreGrip™ ledge	Downward pressure on strap
Anti-Vibration	3 features (tip, grip & ferrule)	May or may not have any
Tips	Large bell-shaped rubber tips	No tips, small tips or boot tips
	to keep poles vertical for max	(diagonal for fitness use)
	stability & off loading	

<sup>\*</sup>The Activator Poles come with Button lock mechanisms, which makes them stronger and easy to use.

Twist-Lock adjustment mechanisms can be challenging to set securely in senior populations with diminished grip strength.

Activator® is revolutionizing mobility and rehabilitation. Prescribed extensively in all continuums of health care as an effective alternative to canes and to reduce the use of crutches and walkers.

	ACTIVATOR® Poles	Canes	Forearm crutches	Walker
Support	Bilateral	Unilateral	Bilateral	Bilateral
Weight bearing	200 lb/pole (90 kg)	Varies	300+lb. (130 kg)	300+lb. (136 kg)
Stability	2 contact points	1 contact point	2 contact points	4 contact points
Posture	Upright	Leaning to one side	Leaning forward	Kyphotic
Arm swing	Normal	Asymmetrical arm swing	Bilateral arm swing	Static
Gait pattern	Functional	Leaning to one side	Smaller stride	Smaller stride & shuffle
Core strength	Increases	Limited engagement of	Limited engagement of	Limited engagement of
		core muscles	core muscles	core muscles
Wrist position (stress)	Neutral	Extended	Extended	Extended
Rest option				Seat
Basket				Yes
Portability	Easy-collapses & 3lb (1.36 kg)	Easy	Moderate	Difficult
Cost	\$114.99 - \$149.99	\$10.00 - \$15.00	\$60.00 - \$180.00	Regular - \$40.00 - \$80.00 Rollator - \$100.00 - \$150.00
Research	~300 on PubMed			
Self-image	Ability	Disability	Disability	Disability

The Activator® Poles have a unique hand-grip which enables the user to stabilize their arm through the lateral border of the hand, thus providing a little more stability than standard walking poles as well as promoting a more neutral wrist posture.

## **Wendy Walker**, neurological physiotherapist UK, Physiopedia.









