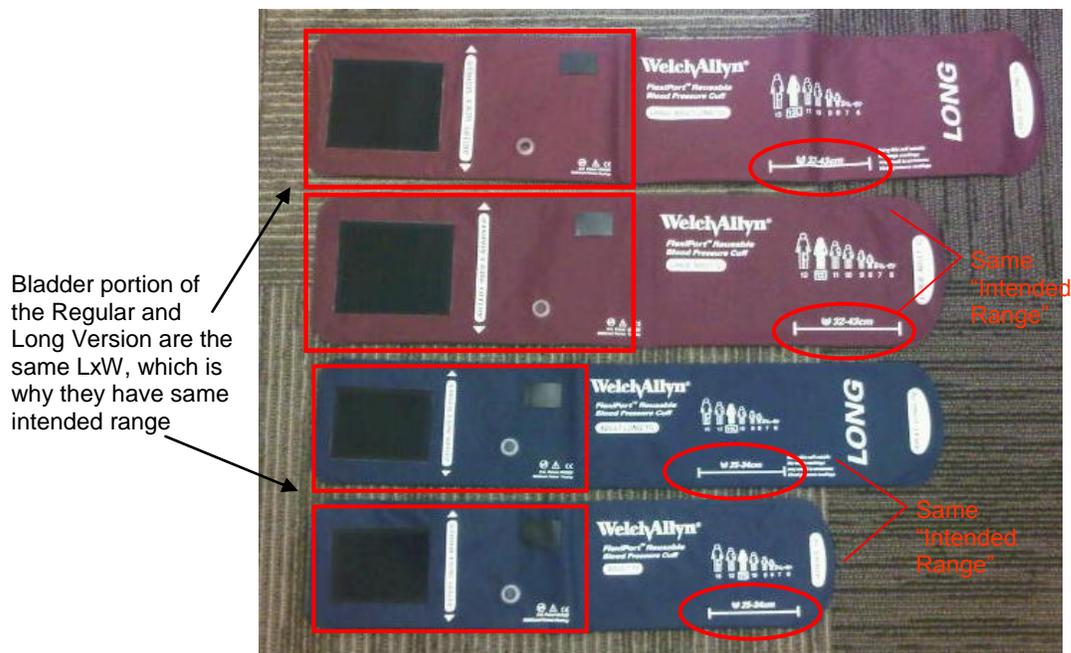# Long Cuff Explanation

Pictures shown are FlexiPort cuffs but this explanation also applies to Trimline cuffs and any competitor cuff that offers a "long" version.

Bladder portion of the Regular and Long Version are the same LxW, which is why they have same intended range

Long cuffs have the same range sizes as the regular cuffs because the bladder size is the same but they have extra cuff material on the non-bladder portion of the cuff to allow it to be used outside the intended range. Typically, a long cuff is used when the cuff size that they want to use is too short to wrap around the patient's arm but the next size up would be too wide. It is the practitioner's choice to determine whether to use the next larger size cuff or to use the "long" cuff even though they may be using it outside the intended range. The reason that they have the same intended range is due to AAMI guidelines which states cuff width to length ratios (see below). As a manufacturer, we adhere to these guidelines. However, long cuffs are intended to fill a gap between traditional cuff sizes on patients with short (from the elbow to the armpit), stocky arms. For these patients, many practitioners feel that the best solution is to use these special long cuffs outside the intended range since no other cuff will fit.

AAMI Sizing Requirements
Welch Allyn cuffs are designed to meet the sizing requirements of the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI). AAMI's most recent requirements are outlined in the standard ANSI/AAMI SP-10: 2002. The standard stipulates two dimensional requirements for blood pressure cuffs. The first dimension pertains to the length of the inflatable portion (bladder) of the cuff. According to the standard, the bladder length should be approximately 0.80 times the circumference of the limb at the midpoint of the intended range of the cuff. The second dimension relates to the width of the cuff bladder. The width should be optimally 0.40 times the circumference of the limb at the midpoint of the intended range of the cuff. Because of these sizing requirements, as a cuff gets longer it must also get wider.