

Compression Garments

A compression garment is a custom made or custom fitted support garment fabricated to apply varying degrees of pressure to specific anatomic areas. These garments affect stress on vein walls, muscle pump activity, tissue pressure and circulation. These garments are also used in the treatment of burn patients. The majority of applications do not require custom made garments.

Coverage and Payment Policy

Custom made garments require prior authorization.

Coverage guidelines for the following covered items:

1. Compression gauntlets and gloves
2. Compression sleeves
3. Custom made compression garments
4. Lymphedema sleeves

Requesting provider must submit the following information:

1. A written prescription from the treating provider.
2. Documentation of a recent face to face evaluation by the prescribing provider which includes physical findings and recommendation for use of the requested garments.
3. A qualified health professional must measure the patient for the requested garments.
4. One of the following medical conditions must be documented:
 - a. Open ulcer
 - b. Lymphedema
 - c. Prevention of initial or recurrent stasis ulcer
 - d. Venous insufficiency
 - e. Chronic edema
 - f. Prevention of deep venous thrombosis during pre and postpartum periods
 - g. Post thrombotic/phlebitic syndrome
 - h. Thrombosis prevention during periods of immobilization
 - i. Thrombophlebitis

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Burn Pressure Garments are covered when medically necessary to enhance healing, reduce swelling, treat contractures and hypertrophic scars suffered by severely burned patients.

Compression Stockings are covered in situations of circulatory impairment, limited to 6 pairs per year.

Approved by:  Associate Medical Director
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Reviewed: _____

Revised: _____