

MedStar Health, Inc.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Policy Number: MP.015.MH
Last Review Date: 08/26/2021
Effective Date: 10/01/2021

MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

This policy applies to the following lines of business:

- ✓ MedStar Employee (Select)
- ✓ MedStar CareFirst PPO

MedStar Health considers **Compression Garments and Stockings** medically necessary for the following indications:

1. There is a written prescription from the treating physician
AND
2. A written, signed and dated order must be received by the supplier before billing for Gradient Compression Garments/Stockings.
AND
3. A qualified health care professional must measure the member's extremity for appropriate sizing/fit, and this must be documented in the medical record.

AND
4. When *at least one* of the following conditions are met:
 - Open ulcer
 - To secure a primary dressing over an open venous stasis ulcer that has been treated by a physician or other health care professional requiring medically necessary debridement
 - Lymphedema treatment (for Post Mastectomy Lymphedema see also PA-075 Lymphedema Pumps and Appliances policy).
 - Prevention of stasis ulcers and reoccurrence of stasis ulcers that have healed
 - Stasis dermatitis from Venous Insufficiency
 - Edema-chronic, following trauma, surgery, fractures, venous, severe with pregnancy, associated with paraplegia and quadriplegia
 - Treatment of burns, 2nd degree or greater (See also MP-011 Surgical Dressings and Wound Care Supplies)
 - Deep venous thrombosis (DVT) prophylaxis during pregnancy and postpartum
 - Post thrombotic/ phlebotic syndrome
 - Post sclerotherapy
 - For prevention of thrombosis in immobilized persons
 - Phlebitis/Thrombophlebitis

MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

Policy Number: MP.015.MH

Last Review Date: 08/26/2021

Effective Date: 10/01/2021

- Postural hypotension
- Lipodermatosclerosis
- Symptomatic Varicose veins (not spider veins)

Limitations

Non-Elastic Binders & Gradient Compression Garments (ready-to-wear or custom made):

- Non-elastic binders and gradient pressure garments which are ready-to-wear or custom made are only covered for lymphedema treatment when there is a written prescription from the treating physician.

Gradient Compression Garments/Stockings for a member are not covered as follows:

- Any over-the-counter garment/elastic stocking or compression bandage roll, even if prescribed by a provider.
- Any garment/stocking that is supplied without a written physician's order.
- Gradient compression garments/stockings are not covered and not considered medically necessary for any one of the following conditions with or without a written physicians order:
 - Osteoarthritis
 - Fibromitosis
 - Chronic airway obstruction
 - Carpal tunnel syndrome
 - Urine retention
 - Cellulitis
 - Neurogenic bladder
 - Paralysis agitans
 - Sprained and or strained joints or ligaments
 - Tendinitis
 - Sleep apnea
 - Hammer toe
 - Lupus Erythematosus
 - Hyperlipidemia
 - Dermatitis (other than stasis dermatitis from venous insufficiency)
 - Asthma
 - Esophageal reflux
 - Cystocele
 - Osteomyelitis
 - Backache

MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

Policy Number: MP.015.MH
Last Review Date: 08/26/2021
Effective Date: 10/01/2021

- Chest pain
- Spider veins

Gradient Compression Garments are limited to four pairs per benefit period.

See Also:

MP.011.MH Surgical Dressings and Wound Care Supplies
PA.075.MH Lymphedema Pumps and Appliances

Background

Gradient Compression Garments are specialized elastic knit two-way stretch stockings, sleeves, gloves, gauntlets or non-elastic binders that provide pressure compression. They are used to promote venous and/or lymphatic circulation or to treat and prevent complications from poor circulation. Better circulation increases the effectiveness of lymphatic vessels, which reduces edema and pain.

There are two types of compression garments: ready-to-wear and custom-made, either can be worn under clothing throughout the day. Compression garments are not worn while sleeping because they provide too much compression when the body is inactive or at rest.

Compression garments are available in a wide range of styles, sizes, and pressure levels. In addition for use in treating lymphedema, this type of garment is also used to treat other conditions that involve swelling of the legs such as chronic venous insufficiency, venous stasis ulcers and varicose veins.

Compression garments are prescribed to the recipient to provide the correct amount of pressure to control swelling. Too little compression is ineffective and too much compression can damage the tissues.

Compression garments are prescribed by a physician and are custom measured by a trained licensed professional to ensure the garment stays comfortably in place and fits smoothly without wrinkles or bulges that can damage the tissues. Circumferential and length measurements are required for the fitting.

Codes:

Note: For dates of service after 1/1/2020 - 1 unit equals 1 garment; pairs should be billed with 2 units. For dates of service prior to 1/1/2020 – 1 unit was equal to 1 pair of garments.

MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

Policy Number: MP.015.MH
 Last Review Date: 08/26/2021
 Effective Date: 10/01/2021

CPT Codes / HCPCS Codes / ICD-10 Codes	
Code	Description
Codes Covered with Lymphedema Diagnoses	
A4465	Non-elastic binder for extremity
S8420	Gradient pressure aid (sleeve & glove combination), custom made
S8421	Gradient pressure aid (sleeve & glove combination), ready made
S8422	Gradient pressure aid (sleeve), custom made, medium weight
S8423	Gradient pressure aid (sleeve), custom made, heavy weight
S8424	Gradient pressure aid (sleeve), ready made
S8425	Gradient pressure aid (glove), custom made, medium weight
S8426	Gradient pressure aid (glove), custom made, heavy weight
S8427	Gradient pressure aid (glove), ready made
S8428	Gradient pressure aids (gauntlet), ready made
S8429	Gradient pressure exterior wrap
Codes Covered for Other Indications Listed in Policy	
A4490	Surgical stockings above knee length, each
A4495	Surgical stockings thigh length, each
A4500	Surgical stockings below knee length, each
A4510	Surgical stockings full length, each
A6530	Gradient compression stocking, below knee 18-30 mmHg, each
A6531	Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 30-40-mmHg, each
A6532	Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 40-50-mmHg, each
A6533	Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 18-30 mmHg, each
A6534	Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 30-40 mmHg, each
A6535	Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 40-50 mmHg, each
A6536	Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 18-30 mmHg, each
A6537	Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 30-40 mmHg, each
A6538	Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 40-50 mmHg, each

MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

Policy Number: MP.015.MH
 Last Review Date: 08/26/2021
 Effective Date: 10/01/2021

A6539	Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 18-30 mmHg, each
A6540	Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 30-40 mmHg, each
A6541	Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 40-50 mmHg, each
A6544	Gradient compression stockings, garter belt
A6545	Gradient compression wrap, non-elastic, below knee, 30-50 mmHg, each
A6549	Gradient compression stocking/sleeve, not otherwise specified
ICD-10 Codes (Lymphedema Diagnosis)	
I97.2	Postmastectomy lymphedema syndrome
I89.0	Lymphedema, not elsewhere classified
I89.1	Lymphangitis
I89.8	Other specified noninfective disorders of lymphatic vessels and lymph nodes
I89.9	Noninfective disorder of lymphatic vessels and lymph nodes, unspecified
Q82.0	Hereditary lymphedema
ICD-10 Codes (Other Indications)	
C50.011- C50.929	Malignant neoplasm of breast
C79.81	Secondary malignant neoplasm of breast
D05.90-D05.92	Unspecified type of carcinoma in situ of breast
D48.60-D48.62	Neoplasm of uncertain behavior of breast
D49.3	Neoplasm of unspecified behavior of breast
G81.00-G81.04	Flaccid hemiplegia
G81.10-G81.14	Monoplegia of lower limb
G83.20-G83.24	Monoplegia of upper limb
G83.30-G83.34	Monoplegia, unspecified
G83.4	Cauda equina syndrome
G83.5	Locked-in state
G83.81-G83.89	Other specified paralytic syndromes
G83.9	Paralytic syndrome, unspecified
I73.89	Other specified peripheral vascular diseases

MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

Policy Number: MP.015.MH

Last Review Date: 08/26/2021

Effective Date: 10/01/2021

I73.9	Peripheral vascular disease, unspecified
I74.2	Embolism and thrombosis of arteries of the upper extremities
I74.3	Embolism and thrombosis of arteries of the lower extremities
I74.4	Embolism and thrombosis of arteries of extremities, unspecified
I74.5	Embolism and thrombosis of iliac artery
I74.8	Embolism and thrombosis of other arteries
I74.9	Embolism and thrombosis of unspecified artery
I80.00-I80.03	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of superficial vessels of lower extremities
I80.10-I80.13	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of femoral
I80.201-I80.209	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of unspecified deep vessels of unspecified lower extremities
I80.211-I80.219	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of iliac vein
I80.221-I80.229	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of popliteal vein
I80.231-I80.239	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of tibial vein
I80.291-I80.299	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of other deep vessels of lower extremities
I80.3	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of lower extremities, unspecified
I80.8	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of other sites
I80.9	Phlebitis and thrombophlebitis of unspecified site
I82.1	Thrombophlebitis migrans
I82.401-I82.409	Acute embolism and thrombosis of unspecified deep veins of lower extremity
I82.411-I82.419	Acute embolism and thrombosis of femoral vein
I82.421-I82.429	Acute embolism and thrombosis of iliac vein
I82.431-I82.439	Acute embolism and thrombosis of popliteal vein
I82.441-I82.449	Acute embolism and thrombosis of tibial vein
I82.4Y1-I82.4Y9	Acute embolism and thrombosis of unspecified deep veins of proximal lower extremity
I82.4Z1-I82.4Z9	Acute embolism and thrombosis of unspecified deep veins of distal lower extremity

MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

Policy Number: MP.015.MH

Last Review Date: 08/26/2021

Effective Date: 10/01/2021

I82.501-I82.509	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of unspecified deep veins of lower extremity
I82.511-I82.519	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of femoral vein
I82.521-I82.529	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of iliac vein
I82.531-I82.539	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of popliteal vein
I82.541-I82.549	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of tibial vein
I82.591-I82.599	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of other specified deep vein of lower extremity
I82.5Y1-I82.5Y9	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of unspecified deep veins of proximal lower extremity
I82.5Z1-I82.5Z9	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of unspecified deep veins of distal lower extremity
I82.621-I82.629	Acute embolism and thrombosis of deep veins of upper extremity
I82.721-I82.729	Chronic embolism and thrombosis of deep veins of upper extremity
I82.811-I82.819	Embolism and thrombosis of superficial veins of lower extremities
I82.890	Acute embolism and thrombosis of other specified veins
I82.90	Acute embolism and thrombosis of unspecified vein
I83.001-I83.029	Varicose veins of unspecified lower extremities with ulcer
I83.211-I83.219	Varicose veins of right lower extremity with both ulcer and inflammation
I83.221-I83.229	Varicose veins of left lower extremity with both ulcer and inflammation
I83.811-I83.819	Varicose veins of lower extremities with pain
I83.891-I83.899	Varicose veins of lower extremities with other complications
I87.001-I87.009	Postthrombotic syndrome without complications
I87.011-I87.019	Postthrombotic syndrome with ulcer
I87.021-I87.029	Postthrombotic syndrome with inflammation
I87.031-I87.039	Postthrombotic syndrome with ulcer and inflammation
I87.091-I87.099	Postthrombotic syndrome with other complications
I87.1	Compression of vein
I87.2	Venous insufficiency (chronic) (peripheral)
I87.311-I87.319	Chronic venous hypertension (idiopathic) with ulcer
I87.331-I87.339	Chronic venous hypertension (idiopathic) with ulcer and inflammation

MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

Policy Number: MP.015.MH

Last Review Date: 08/26/2021

Effective Date: 10/01/2021

I87.8	Other specified disorders of veins
I88.8	Other nonspecific lymphadenitis
I88.9	Nonspecific lymphadenitis, unspecified
I95.1	Orthostatic hypotension
I99.8	Other disorder of circulatory system
I99.9	Unspecified disorder of circulatory system
O12.00-O12.03	Gestational edema
O12.20-O12.23	Gestational edema with proteinuria
O22.00-O22.03	Varicose veins of lower extremity in pregnancy
O22.30-O22.33	Deep phlebothrombosis in pregnancy
O26.00-O26.03	Excessive weight gain in pregnancy
O87.1	Deep phlebothrombosis in the puerperium
O87.4	Varicose veins of lower extremity in the puerperium
L89.000-L89.95	Pressure Ulcer
L97.101-L97.129	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of thigh
L97.201-L97.229	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of calf
L97.301-L97.329	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of ankle
L97.401-L97.429	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of heel and midfoot
L97.501-L97.529	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of other part of foot
L97.801-L97.829	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of other part of lower leg
L97.901-L97.929	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of unspecified part of unspecified lower leg
M25.461- M25.469	Effusion, knee
M25.471- M25.476	Effusion, ankle and foot
M79.89	Other specified soft tissue disorders
Q27.31	Arteriovenous malformation of vessel of upper limb
Q27.32	Arteriovenous malformation of vessel of lower limb
Q27.8	Other specified congenital malformations of peripheral vascular system
Q27.9	Congenital malformation of peripheral vascular system, unspecified
Q82.0	Hereditary lymphedema

MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

Policy Number: MP.015.MH
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R60.0-R60.9	Edema, not elsewhere classified
T24.201A- T24.299S	Burn of second degree of lower limb, except ankle and foot
T24.301A- T24.399S	Burn of third degree of lower limb, except ankle and foot
T25.211A- T25.299S	Burn of second degree of ankle and foot
T25.311A- T25.399S	Burn of third degree of ankle and foot
T81.31XA- T81.31XS	Disruption of external operation (surgical) wound, not elsewhere classified
T81.32XA- T81.32XS	Disruption of internal operation (surgical) wound, not elsewhere classified
Z74.01	Bed confinement status

References

1. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Local Coverage Determination (LCD). L33831 – Surgical Dressings. Original Effective Date: 10/01/2015. Revision Effective Date: 05/01/2021. <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=33831&DocID=L33831>
2. Vickers A, Zollman C. ABC of Complementary Medicine. The manipulative therapies: osteopathy and chiropractic. BMJ. 1999 October; 319(7218): 1176–1179. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1116959/pdf/1176.pdf>
3. Bjork, R. & Ehmann, S. (2019, June 7). S.T.R.I.D.E. Professional Guide to Compression Garment Selection for the Lower Extremity. Journal of Wound Care. <https://doi.org/10.12968/jowc.2019.28.Sup6a.S1>

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MP.015.MH – Compression Stockings and Garments

Policy Number: MP.015.MH
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