

December 4, 2014

Montana Health Care Programs Notice

Durable Medical Equipment

Effective Immediately

Compression Garments for the Legs

This provider notice serves as notification of the coverage criteria for compression garments for the legs. The criteria must be met in order for the garments to be covered.

Inflatable compression garments, non-elastic binders, or individually fitted prescription graded compression stockings are considered medically necessary for members who have any of the following medical conditions:

- Treatment of any of the following complications of chronic venous insufficiency:
 - Lipodermatosclerosis
 - Stasis dermatitis (venous eczema)
 - Varicose veins (except spider veins)
 - Venous edema
 - Venous ulcers (stasis ulcers)
- Edema accompanying paraplegia, quadriplegia
- Edema following surgery, fracture, burns, or other trauma
- Persons with lymphedema
- Post sclerotherapy (applies only to pre-made or custom-made pressure gradient support stockings)
- Post-thrombotic syndrome (post-phlebotic syndrome)
- Postural hypotension
- Prevention of thrombosis in immobilized persons (e.g., immobilization due to surgery, trauma, general debilitation)
- Severe edema in pregnancy

Compression garments for the legs are considered experimental and investigational for all other indications (e.g., management of spasticity following stroke) and will not be covered.

Replacements:

Replacements are considered medically necessary when the compression garment cannot be repaired or when required due to a change in the member's physical condition. For pressure gradient support stockings, no more than 4 replacements per year are considered medically necessary for wear.

Two pairs of compression stockings are considered medically necessary in the **initial** purchase. The second pair is for use while the first pair is in the laundry.

For a list of covered compression stocking codes, please see the fee schedule posted on the Provider Information website listed below.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Shorten at 406-444-5296 or DShorten@mt.gov.

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations at 1-800-624-3958 (toll-free, in/out of state) or 406-442-1837 (Helena) or via e-mail at MTPRHelpdesk@xerox.com.

Visit the Montana Medicaid Provider Information website at <http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov>.