

Compression Stockings

Policy Number: **M20160516035**
Effective Date: **7/1/2016**
Sponsoring Department: **Health Care Services**
Impacted Department(s): **Health Care Services**

Type of Policy: ☒ Internal ☒ External

Data Classification: ☐ Confidential ☐ Restricted ☒ Public

Applies to (Line of Business):

- ☐ Corporate (All)
☒ State Products, if yes which plan(s): ☒ MediSource; ☒ MediSource Connect; ☒ Child Health Plus; ☒ Essential Plan
☐ Medicare, if yes, which plan(s): ☐ MAPD; ☐ PDP; ☐ ISNP; ☐ CSNP
☒ Commercial, if yes, which type: ☒ Large Group; ☒ Small Group; ☒ Individual
☒ Self-Funded Services *(Refer to specific Summary Plan Descriptions (SPDs) to determine any pre-authorization or pre-certification requirements and coverage limitations. In the event of any conflict between this policy and the SPD of a Self-Funded Plan, the SPD shall supersede the policy.)*

Excluded Products within the Selected Lines of Business (LOB)

N/A

Applicable to Vendors? Yes ☐ No ☒

Purpose and Applicability:

To set forth the medical necessity criteria for compression stockings.

Policy:

Background:

There are four compression classes that are used depending on the severity of the disease. The basic differences are in the strength of the material, and therefore the pressure exerted on the veins.

Class I (20-30 mmHg) is light compression

Class II (30-40 mmHg) is moderate compression, and is usually used for:

- Moderate varicosities,
- Moderate edema,
- Lymphatic edema
- Prevention and management of venous ulcers,
- Prevention of thrombosis,
- Post-surgically,
- Orthostatic hypotension,
- Post sclerotherapy

Class III (40-50 mmHg) is strong compression, and is usually used for:

- Severe varicosities,
- Severe edema,
- Lymphatic edema,
- Prevention and management of venous ulcers,
- Post phlebitic syndrome,
- Chronic venous insufficiency,
- Lymphedema,
- Orthostatic hypotension,
- Post-surgically

Class IV (Over 50 mmHg) is usually used for:

Syndromes that are more severe than for class III,

Commercial and Self-funded:

Commercial members are allowed compression stockings when dispensed for the following codes:

- A6531 Gradient compression stocking, below knee 30 mmHg – 40 mmHg
- A6532 Gradient compression stocking, below knee 40 mmHg – 50 mmHg
- A6534 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length 30 mmHg – 40 mmHg
- A6535 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length 40 mmHg – 50 mmHg
- A6545 Gradient compression wrap, non-elastic, below knee, 30-50 mmHg, each
- A6552 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 30-40 mmHg, each
- A6553 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 30-40 mmHg, custom, each
- A6554 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 40 mmHg or greater, each
- A6555 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 40 mmHg or greater, custom, each
- A6557 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 30-40 mmHg, custom, each

- A6558 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 40 mmHg or greater, custom, each
- A6560 Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 30-40 mmHg, custom, each
- A6561 Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 40 mmHg or greater, custom, each
- A6563 Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 30-40 mmHg, custom, each
- A6564 Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 40 mmHg or greater, custom, each
- A6583 Gradient compression wrap with adjustable straps, below knee, 30-50 mmHg, each

All other codes are not covered.

Members are allowed 12 individual stockings per year.

MediSource, MediSource Connect, Child Health Plus and Essential Plan:

Per the New York State Medicaid coverage criteria, MediSource, MediSource Connect, Child Health Plus and Essential Plan cover the following compression stockings:

- A6519 Gradient compression garment, not otherwise specified, for nighttime use, each (e.g. TributeNight, CircAid Night), twice per year
- A6530 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 18-30 mmHg each, twice per year
- A6533 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 18-30 mmHg, each, twice per year
- A6534 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 30-40 mmHg, each, twice per year
- A6535 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 40-50 mmHg, each, twice per year
- A6536 Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 18-30 mmHg, twice per year
- A6537 Gradient compression stocking, elastic, full length/chap style 30-40 mmHg, each, twice per year
- A6538 Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 40-50 mmHg, each, twice per year
- A6539 Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 18-30 mmHg, each (panty hose style), twice per year
- A6540 Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 30-40 mmHg, each (panty hose style), twice per year
- A6541 Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 40-50 mmHg, each (panty hose style), twice per year
- A6549 Gradient compression stocking, not otherwise specified (each), twice per year
- A6552 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 30-40 mmHg, each, twice per year
- A6553 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 30-40 mmHg, custom, each, twice per year
- A6554 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 40 mmHg or greater, each, twice per year
- A6555 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 40 mmHg or greater, custom, each, twice per year
- A6556 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 18-30 mmHg, custom, each, twice per year
- A6557 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 30-40 mmHg, custom, each, twice per year
- A6558 Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 40 mmHg or greater, custom, each, twice per year
- A6559 Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 18-30 mmHg, custom, each, twice per year

- A6560 Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 30-40 mmHg, custom, each, twice per year
- A6561 Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 40 mmHg or greater, custom, each, twice per year
- A6562 Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 18-30 mmHg, custom, each, twice per year
- A6563 Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 30-40 mmHg, custom, each, twice per year
- A6564 Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 40 mmHg or greater, custom, each, twice per year
- A6565 Gradient compression gauntlet, custom, each, twice per year
- A6568 Gradient compression garment, torso and shoulder, each, twice per year
- A6569 Gradient compression garment, torso/shoulder, custom, each, twice per year
- A6572 Gradient compression garment, toe caps, each, twice per year
- A6573 Gradient compression garment, toe caps, custom, each, twice per year
- A6574 Gradient compression arm sleeve and glove combination, custom, each, twice per year
- A6575 Gradient compression arm sleeve and glove combination, each, twice per year
- A6576 Gradient compression arm sleeve, custom, medium weight, each, twice per year
- A6577 Gradient compression arm sleeve, custom, heavy weight, each, twice per year
- A6578 Gradient compression arm sleeve, each, twice per year
- A6579 Gradient compression glove, custom, medium weight, each, twice per year
- A6580 Gradient compression glove, custom, heavy weight, each, twice per year
- A6581 Gradient compression glove, each, twice per year
- A6582 Gradient compression gauntlet, each, twice per year
- A6583 Gradient compression wrap with adjustable straps, below knee, 30-50 mmHg, each, twice per year
- A6584 Gradient compression wrap with adjustable straps, not otherwise specified, twice per year
- A6585 Gradient pressure wrap with adjustable straps, above knee, each, twice per year
- A6586 Gradient pressure wrap with adjustable straps, full leg, each, twice per year
- A6587 Gradient pressure wrap with adjustable straps, foot, each, twice per year
- A6588 Gradient pressure wrap with adjustable straps, arm, each, twice per year
- A6610 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 18-30 mmHg, custom, each, twice per year

Non-custom compression stockings/garments are covered when:

- Prefabricated elastic support garment that applies varying pressure gradients to an area.
- Prefabricated garments are available in various sizes, and different levels of compression.
- Prefabricated garments with an appropriate level of compression (determined by the ordering provider) should be requested before custom is considered if the member's limb measurements fit within the size ranges specified by the manufacturers of the garment. Various manufacturers should be explored.
- Covered for venous or lymphatic impairment.

Custom compression stockings/garments are covered when:

- Custom made gradient compression stockings/garments fabricated to the exact specifications of an individual.
- Custom made compression stockings/garments are considered medically necessary when the degree of gradient pressure is one that cannot be provided by a prefabricated garment, or whose measurements fall outside the ranges of prefabricated garments.
- Covered for venous or lymphatic impairment.
- Custom HCPCS codes and fees include zippered compression garments.

Documentation Requirements:

- A physician's order indicating the specific level of compression in mmHg, specific style, type, and hosiery knit, and any additional accessories/options.
- Ordering provider's letter of medical necessity should include medical history, related diagnoses, duration and extent of current symptoms, any neurological involvement of affected limbs, ambulation status and degree of assistance required.
- Current and previous compression treatment modalities utilized and member's compliance and medical outcomes.
- Detailed measurements of the area treated or needing treatment obtained from a certified fitter or Lymphology Association of North America (LANA) certified therapist, and the date(s) measured. Indicate the location and degree of edematous lobules if present.

Pre-Authorization Required? Yes ☐ No ☒

Pre-authorization is not required at the present time. Criteria above will be utilized upon retro-review.

Definitions

N/A

References

Related Policies, Processes and Other Documents

N/A

Non-Regulatory References

Eberhardt RT, Raffetto JD. Chronic venous insufficiency. *Circulation*. 2014 Jul 22;130(4):333-46.

Geerts WH, Bergqvist D, Pineo GF, et al; American College of Chest Physicians. Prevention of venous thromboembolism: American College of Chest Physicians Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines (8th Edition). *Chest*. 2008 Jun;133(6 Suppl):381S-453S.

Jobin S, Kalliainen L, Adebayo L, et al. Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement. Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis. Updated November 2012.

O'Brien JG, Chennubhotla SA, Chennubhotla RV. Treatment of edema. Am Fam Physician. 2005 Jun 1;71(11):2111-7.

O'Donnell TF Jr, Passman MA, Marston WA, et al; Society for Vascular Surgery; American Venous Forum. Management of venous leg ulcers: clinical practice guidelines of the Society for Vascular Surgery® and the American Venous Forum. J Vasc Surg. 2014 Aug;60(2 Suppl):3S-59S.

Regulatory References

New York States Department of Health [web site]. New York State Medicaid Program. Durable Medical Equipment, Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Supplies Procedure Codes and Coverage Guidelines. Version 2025 (10/1/2025) Available at:

https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/DME/PDFS/DME_Procedure_Codes.pdf

Accessed January 26, 2026

This policy contains medical necessity criteria that apply for this service. Please note that payment for covered services is subject to eligibility criteria, contract exclusions and the limitations noted in the member's contract at the time the services are rendered.

Version Control

Signature / Approval on File? Yes ☒ No ☐

Revision Date	Owner	Notes
4/1/2026	Health Care Services	Revised
3/1/2025	Health Care Services	Revised
2/1/2024	Health Care Services	Revised
9/1/2023	Health Care Services	Reviewed
10/1/2022	Health Care Services	Revised
11/1/2021	Health Care Services	Reviewed
11/1/2020	Health Care Services	Reviewed
12/1/2019	Medical Management	Reviewed
1/1/2019	Medical Management	Reviewed
2/1/2018	Medical Management	Revised
7/1/2017	Medical Management	Revised
8/1/2016	Medical Management	Revised