

PATIENT SUCCESS STORY

Felix M.

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Can you provide a little background about your diagnosis and treatment and how you came to use an AIROS device? Who prescribed you the device and what was their specialty – GP, wound care, vascular?

When I was in 4th grade, I woke up one morning with a swollen right leg. After a long day in Children's Hospital in Boston and a number of tests, I went home with the medical equivalent of "we have no idea" – better known as "idiopathic lymphedema." After a very painful test involving injections in between my toes, they determined the lymphatic drainage system in my lower right leg wasn't working, and suspected it had not formed properly. This apparently is a 1 in 100,000 shot.

I now know lymphedema to be a lifetime condition that needs constant maintenance to avoid progressing into other more complicated and dangerous conditions such as elephantiasis. Avoiding this hardening of tissue requires compression garments, complex wrapping and manual lymphatic massage, but also benefits greatly from a machine like the AIROS. The sequential massage provides daily improvement and the convenience is crucial for my long term health.

What is your Height, weight (if you don't mind sharing), & diagnosis?

I am 6' 0" and about 130 pounds. I have been diagnosed with primary lymphedema. Primary means it is a genetic condition rather than the result of trauma or secondary effect of cancer.

What are the Script details – pressure, times per day, cycle time?

The prescription is not specific about cycle times or pressure amounts - the usage of sequential pumps is an active area of research for my condition and the flexibility, precision and reliability of the AIROS is a significant advantage over the consumer-level compression devices.

What AIROS device did you use?

I am using the AIROS 8 because given the relatively small area affected (basically knee and below), the chamber count is very important for moving the lymph upwards instead of just moving it around.



NAME

Felix M.

HEIGHT

6FT

WEIGHT

130 LBS

CONDITION

PRIMARY LYMPHEDEMA

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What was your experience using this?

So far the AIROS has been fantastic. It's not really a case of seeing a drastic improvement overnight so much as comfort and convenience providing positive change over time. I'm still growing, so measurements aren't always the best gauge of progress, but my leg feels softer and more "typical" of healthy leg tissue.

Will you continue to use it and why?

I use the AIROS every day for an hour. I use my computer or do homework during that time, so it's become a nice relaxing ritual to end the day.

Anything else that you would like to share?

I need this everyday, no matter where I am. I needed to travel with it this summer which was very easy to do. I demonstrate it to security at the airport and show a prescription. Overall, lymphedema is a condition that is very fussy, and I appreciate the compact and light design when traveling and when moving around the house.