

HOW TO GET A PNEUMATIC COMPRESSION PUMP FOR LYMPHEDEMA TREATMENT

Do you have pain or swelling in your legs, arms, chest, abdomen, or pelvic region? Do you think that you are one of the 7-10 million Americans who have a chronic condition known as lymphedema? If so, you may qualify for a treatment option known as a Pneumatic Compression Device (PCD).


This guide will provide an overview of how you can acquire one of these prescription-only medical devices that can help you live more comfortably.

IMPORTANT: Download and print this separate guide. Bring it to your PCP, specialist physician, or lymphedema therapist, as it provides information about what is needed to write a prescription for a PCD

HOW TO PRESCRIBE A PNEUMATIC COMPRESSION DEVICE FOR LYMPHEDEMA TREATMENT



1. Visit Your Primary Doctor



Schedule an appointment with your Primary Care Physician (PCP) so he or she can review your symptoms. Your PCP may refer you to a specialized physician or health care professional such as a vascular doctor, physiatrist, or Certified Lymphedema Therapist (CLT).

1


2. Receive a Lymphedema Diagnosis

If you have lymphedema, your doctor or the specialist will record this diagnosis in your medical record. You may also receive a secondary diagnosis of Chronic Venous Insufficiency (CVI), which PCDs also treat.



2

3. Try Conservative Treatments



Once you have been diagnosed with lymphedema, a 4-week trial of conservative treatments will be initiated. During this trial, you will be asked to try elevation, exercise, and some kind of compression bandaging system such as wraps or compression stockings. The goal is to see if these conservative treatments help alleviate your symptoms.

3

4. Obtain a Prescription After Qualifying

If the conservative measures are not effective, you will qualify for a PCD. You must obtain a prescription from a physician, either your primary care doctor or a specialty physician. Lymphedema therapists can recommend that a PCD be prescribed but the physician must write the prescription.



4

5. Identify a Durable Medical Equipment Supplier

Once you have a script for a PCD, a Durable Medical Equipment (DME) supplier can get you a device and the associated garments that work with the device. The DME will work with the prescribing physician and your insurance company (Medicare or commercial insurance), and will also handle all paperwork. Depending on your insurance plan, you may be responsible for a co-pay, co-insurance, or other financial payment. Once you have a prescription, you may also be able to purchase the device out-of-pocket without insurance.



5

NOTE: AIROS Medical works with DMEs across the country. We can help you find a DME in your area.

6. Receive a Device & Begin Treatment

You may be shipped a PCD directly, or a field technician from the DME will deliver the device to your residence. The DME's field technician will come to your residence, show you how to use the device, have you complete some paperwork, and answer any questions you may have. If you have any issues with the device moving forward, or any questions, you would contact the DME directly.



6

7. Next Steps: Contact Us to Find a DME

AIROS Medical's team has decades of experience providing PCD devices to patients and working with DMEs directly to help lymphedema and CVI patients receive the treatment they need. Contact us to help you find a DME in your area, or with questions about lymphedema treatment.



7