

Medical-Grade Lymphedema Compression Garments are not the same as Over-the-Counter Products



Compression garments sold at pharmacies and through other retailers are not indicated for the management of lymphedema.

Over-the-counter products are almost exclusively for the lower extremities and are used for minor fluid retention or venous stasis.

The medical-grade lymphedema compression garments that would be coverable by Medicare through passage of the Lymphedema Treatment Act also have a number of other distinguishing features including:

- True gradient compression (rather than localized areas of higher compression)
- Higher overall levels of compression and a much wider array of compression strengths
- Superior durability and longevity
- Available for any part of the body that could be affected by lymphedema, not just the lower extremities
- Able to be fit to limbs of any size or shape – lymphedema can cause irregularly proportioned and/or extremely enlarged limb size (*see below photos*)
- Suitable for use in patients with wounds or those predisposed to infection
- Sold by Medicare Accredited DMEPOS suppliers¹
- Require specially trained and certified fitters for custom garments

**The compression garments outlined in the Lymphedema Treatment Act,
both custom and standard fit, will require a physician's prescription.**



¹ <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/DMEPOSAccreditation.html>