Support/Compression Stockings, Sleeves, and Gloves
Policy Number: PG0081
Last Review: 07/11/2017

GUIDELINES
This policy does not certify benefits or authorization of benefits, which is designated by each individual policyholder contract. Paramount applies coding edits to all medical claims through coding logic software to evaluate the accuracy and adherence to accepted national standards. This guideline is solely for explaining correct procedure reporting and does not imply coverage and reimbursement.

SCOPE
X Professional
_ Facility

DESCRIPTION
Lymphedema is a failure of the lymphatic transport system resulting in the accumulation of lymphatic and edema fluid in the soft tissue. Primary lymphedema is a result of congenital defects of the lymphatic system and is rare. Secondary lymphedema is acquired and due to an obstruction or interruption in the lymphatic system. In the United States, the most common causes of lymphedema are cancer and treatment related to cancer. Patients undergoing surgery for breast cancer that includes node dissection or axillary radiation therapy are at high risk of developing lymphedema. The goals of lymphedema treatment are to decrease the excess volume as much as possible and maintain the limb at its smallest size.

Compression garments are usually made of elastic material, and are used to promote venous or lymphatic circulation. Compression garments worn on the legs can help prevent deep vein thrombosis and reduce edema, and are useful in a variety of peripheral vascular conditions. A sleeve may be needed for lymphedema of the arm and a glove may be used if lymphedema is present in the hand. Compression garments can come in varying degrees of compression. It is important that the garment fit correctly and provide adequate, graduated compression.

POLICY
Compression garments that are covered (as listed below) do not require prior authorization but may be subject to limits.

HMO, PPO, Individual Marketplace, Elite/ProMedica Medicare Plan
Covered
Limit of two per year: A6541
Limit of three per year: A6545
Limit of six per year: A6531, A6432, S8424

Non-Covered
A4490, A4495, A4500, A4510, A6530, A6533, A6534, A6535, A6536, A6537, A6538, A6539, A6540, A6544, S8420-S8423, S8425-S8428
These codes are non-covered for all indications because they do not meet the definition of a surgical dressing and will be denied.

Advantage
Covered
Limit of six per year: A4490, A4495, A4500, A4510, A6530, A6531, A6532, A6533, A6534, A6535, A6536, A6537, S8420, S8421, S8422, S8423, S8424, S8425, S8426, S8427, S8428
Limit of three per year: A6539-A6541
COVERAGE CRITERIA
HMO, PPO, Individual Marketplace, Elite/ProMedica Medicare Plan, Advantage
Compression garments are covered when used for the treatment of an open venous stasis ulcer. Medical records must reflect appropriate documentation and be provided upon request. Payment for these supplies may be included in payment for other services rendered.

Compression garments are non-covered for the following conditions: venous insufficiency without stasis ulcers, prevention of stasis ulcers, prevention of the reoccurrence of stasis ulcers that have healed, treatment of lymphedema in the absence of ulcers. In these situations, since there is no ulcer, the stockings/wraps do not meet the definition of a surgical dressing.

Advantage
Compression stockings are a covered service when there is a medical indication present, warranted for those covered services.

Coverage of compression garments is limited to the following diagnoses:
- Lymphedema
- Elephantiasis
- Milroy’s disease
- Orthostatic hypotension
- Pregnancy with associated symptomatic venous insufficiency
- Stasis dermatitis
- Stasis ulcers
- Symptomatic chronic venous insufficiency (for example, pain, swelling, ulcers, severe varicose veins)
- Thrombophlebitis
- Post-thrombotic syndrome

Surgical stockings are specialized stockings covered when ordered by a prescriber to prevent embolisms in the legs of non-ambulatory (e.g., bed-confined) consumers. Surgical stockings are used as a short-term treatment (up to three months) after a surgical event.

Providers fitting and dispensing compression garments, or surgical stockings that are custom-made or custom-fitted must be certified to do so according to industry standards. A provider will not be eligible for reimbursement for custom-made or custom-fitted garments if the provider does not have a certified fitter on staff or under contract. Providers must keep on file documentation subject to review by Paramount verifying that they have a trained fitter on staff or under contract.

CODING/BILLING INFORMATION
The appearance of a code in this section does not necessarily indicate coverage. Codes that are covered may have selection criteria that must be met. Payment for supplies may be included in payment for other services rendered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCPCS CODES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A4490 Surgical stockings above knee length, each</td>
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<tr>
<td>A4495 Surgical stockings thigh length, each</td>
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<tr>
<td>A4500 Surgical stockings below knee length, each</td>
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<tr>
<td>A4510 Surgical stockings full length, each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A6530 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 18-30mmhg, each</td>
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<tr>
<td>A6531 Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 30-40mmhg, each</td>
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Gradient compression stocking, below knee, 40-50mmhg, each
Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 18-30mmhg, each
Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 30-40mmhg, each
Gradient compression stocking, thigh length, 40-50mmhg, each
Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 18-30mmhg, each
Gradient compression stocking, full length/chap style, 30-40mmhg, each
Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 18-30mmhg, each
Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 30-40mmhg, each
Gradient compression stocking, waist length, 40-50mmhg, each
Gradient compression stocking, garter belt
Gradient compression wrap, non-elastic, below knee, 30-50mm hg, each
Gradient pressure aid (sleeve and glove combination), custom made
Gradient pressure aid (sleeve and glove combination), ready made
Gradient pressure aid (sleeve), custom made, medium weight
Gradient pressure aid (sleeve), custom made, heavy weight
Gradient pressure aid (sleeve), ready made
Gradient pressure aid (glove), custom made, medium weight
Gradient pressure aid (glove), custom made, heavy weight
Gradient pressure aid (glove), ready made
Gradient pressure aid (gauntlet), ready made

REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION
ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/15/2006
06/15/07: Added sleeves/gloves
06/15/08: No change
12/01/08: New code
01/01/09: Codes A6542 and A6543 were deleted
12/01/09: Updated
07/01/12: Updated
05/12/15: Removed HCPCS code A6549 and ICD-9 code 459.81. Policy reviewed and updated to reflect most current clinical evidence per Medical Policy Steering Committee.
06/14/16: Codes S8420-S8428 are non-covered for HMO, PPO, Individual Marketplace, Elite per CME guidelines. Added ODM criteria per 5160-10-14. Removed ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes. Policy reviewed and updated to reflect most current clinical evidence per Medical Policy Steering Committee.
05/17/17: Procedure S8424 is now covered with a limit of six per year for HMO, PPO, Individual Marketplace, Elite per administrative review and directive.
07/11/17: Policy reviewed and updated to reflect most current clinical evidence per Medical Policy Steering Committee.
01/01/2021: Medical policy placed on the new Paramount Medical Policy Format

REFERENCES/RESOURCES
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS Manual System and other CMS publications and services
Ohio Department of Medicaid
American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) and associated publications and services
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System, HCPCS Release and Code Sets
Industry Standard Review