

Prescribing of Compression Hosiery

Basildon and Brentwood CCG and Thurrock CCG supports the prescribing of compression hosiery for the following indications:

- Conditions associated with chronic venous insufficiency
- Management of leg symptoms after DVT
- Varicose veins only if interventional treatment is unsuitable
- Venous eczema
- Lipodermatosclerosis
- Venous ulcers

Compression hosiery provide graduated pressure from the distal to proximal portion of the leg and increase venous blood flow by improving the action of the calf-muscle pump.

Prescribing recommendations:

- Prescribe one pair (two stockings) if only one leg is being treated or two pairs (four stockings) if both legs are being treated so that one can be worn while the other is being washed and dried.
- Prescribe new stockings every 3 to 6 months or earlier if any defects or damage become apparent or, if on stretching, the stocking does not return to its original shape.
- Ideally, each time a stocking is replaced, the leg should be re-measured.
- Remind patients that the life of the stocking can be prolonged by correct washing. Stockings should be hand washed at about 40°C (a comfortable hand temperature) and dried away from direct heat.

Providers commissioned to provide services on behalf of Thurrock CCG and Basildon and Brentwood CCG are reminded that they are required to follow the local joint formulary and prescribing guidance, or relevant Medicines Management agreement.

Position Statement No.	40
Title	Prescribing of Compression Hosiery
References	NICE CKS Compression Stockings: https://cks.nice.org.uk/compression-stockings#!scenario recommendation:7
Acknowledgements	North East Essex CCG Medicines Management Team
Version	1
Author	Medicines Management Team
Approved by	Basildon and Brentwood CCG: Prescribing Subgroup, Patient Quality and Safety Committee, Board Thurrock CCG: Medicines Management and Safety Group, Patient Quality and Safety Committee, Transformation and Sustainability Committee, Board
Date Approved	October 18
Review Date	October 19