

FORMULARY EVALUATION OF A 2-COMPONENT INELASTIC COHESIVE COMPRESSION KIT



Clinical effectiveness, patient experience and cost improvement

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Aim

Using case reflection to illustrate how the evaluation of an alternative compression bandage* has led to improved clinical outcomes, cost benefits and quality of life.



Applying the padding layer of the 2-component inelastic cohesive compression kit



Applying the compression layer of the 2-component inelastic cohesive compression kit



Case study

- Female, 84 years old
- Leaking varicose eczema
- VLUs
- General skin fragility
- Chronic oedema
- Reduced mobility
- Management with 3 layer compression, 3x weekly, for years
- The patient had lost hope that her legs would improve. Her pain threshold was very low. The DN team were sceptical about using the new system, as it challenged ritualistic use of multi-layer elastic systems.

Results

- Within 1 week, considerable reduction in oedema
- The patient was more comfortable due to tolerable resting pressures
- The patient is now able to wear her own shoes again
- Staff reported preference to new system due to ease of use
- Within 4 weeks, legs were dry and wounds healed
- The patient was then measured for made-to-measure flat-knit hosiery**
- Cost of nursing input has reduced by 2/3 (3 visits per week down to 1 visit per week for skin care)
- The patient was delighted with the outcome

Method

Elastic compression has commonly been used within the Trust to manage venous leg ulceration (VLU). An evaluation of a 2-component inelastic compression kit* was conducted, initially with 5 patients, for Formulary inclusion.

Indications

VLU, mild-moderate chronic oedema, mixed aetiology disease (under specialist supervision)

Discussion/Conclusion

All evaluations yielded:

- Quick results
- Ease of use
- Patient comfort
- Reduced cost of care

Use of the system has achieved clinical effectiveness, improved patient experience and cost minimisation in all cases