

Compression Therapy, Management of Venous Insufficiency and Mixed Venous/Arterial Insufficiency Guideline

Site Applicability

All VCH & PHC sites

Practice Level

- **NP:** Advanced Skill – additional education required
- **ET/WOC Nurse/Wound Clinician:** Basic skill - may autonomously provide care and may provide clinical direction for compression therapy
- **RN:** Advanced Skill – additional education required; must have an order from a Physician/NP or clinical direction for a ET/WOC Nurse/Wound Clinician
- **RPN:** Advanced Skill – additional education required; must have an order from a Physician/NP or clinical direction for a ET/WOC Nurse/Wound Clinician
- **LPN (Vancouver Community only):** Advanced Skill - additional education required; must have an order from a Physician/NP or clinical direction for a ET/WOC Nurse/Wound Clinician

Policy Statement

VCH & PHC nurses must complete the Compression Therapy module developed by the Provincial Nursing Skin & Wound Committee (see link below) and be signed off by the Wound Clinician, Clinical Educator or designate as competent before undertaking the application of compression therapy (see page 42 of the Compression Therapy Education Learning Module for the Competency Checklist).

VCH & PHC nurses will follow the Decision Support Tool (DST) developed by the Provincial Nursing Skin & Wound Committee (see link below) when applying compression therapy.

Need to Know

The Provincial Nursing Skin and Wound Committee (PNSWC) developed this DST to provide a standardized guideline for the application of compression therapy for all patients, clients and residents across the province.

Procedure Guideline

The Provincial DST guideline provides detailed guidance on how to apply compression therapy for the management of venous insufficiency and mixed venous/arterial insufficiency.

- **Guideline:** [Application of Compression Therapy to Manage Venous Insufficiency and Mixed Venous/Arterial Insufficiency.](#)
- **Education Module:** [Application of Compression Therapy to Manage Venous Insufficiency and Mixed Venous/Arterial Insufficiency.](#)

Expected Patient/Client/Resident Outcome

Patients/clients/residents who need compression therapy for the management of their venous insufficiency or mixed venous/arterial insufficiency will have their compression therapy applied appropriately.

Patient/Client/Resident Education

Patient Health Education Materials (order through [VCH](#) or [PHC](#))

- Compression Stocking ([FD.858.C66](#))
- Managing your Venous Disease ([FD.860.P74](#))

Documentation

As per VCH & PHC documentation guidelines.

Related Documents

- [Duke Boot Compression Therapy \(with self-adherent wrap\) Procedure](#)
 - Procedure Video: [Duke Boot Compression Therapy \(with self-adherent wrap\)](#)
- [Unna Boot Compression Therapy \(without self-adherent wrap\) Procedure](#)
 - Procedure Video: [Unna Boot Compression Therapy \(with self-adherent wrap\)](#)

References

See guideline document.

Developed by

The British Columbia Provincial Nursing Skin and Wound Committee in collaboration with Regional Skin & Wound Committees from NHA, IHA, FHA, RIHA, PHSA & VCH/PHC

VCH/PHC representatives on the Committee:

Wound Clinician Vancouver Residential Care
Wound Clinician North Shore Home Health
ET Lions Gate Hospital
Nurse Clinician Burns, Plastics & Trauma Unit VGH
Wound Clinician VGH & UBC
Wound Clinician Richmond Home Care
WOC Nurse, PHC
WOC Nurse, Regional Practice Initiatives Lead, Professional Practice, VCH

Endorsed by

VCH: (Regional SharePoint 2nd Reading)
Health Authority Professional Specific Advisory Council Chairs (HAPSAC)
Health Authority Interprofessional Advisory Council Chairs (HAIAAC)
VCH Operations Directors
VCH Professional Practice Directors
PHC Professional Practice Standards Committee

Final Sign-off & Approved for Posting by

Vice President Professional Practice and Chief Clinical Information Officer, VCH
Professional Practice Standards Committee, PHC

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