

Compression Socks - Post-Amputation - Summary Clinical Guideline

Reference No: CG-R&C/2008/001

Issuing and Application of Post Lower Limb Amputation Stump Compression Socks

Guideline Summary:

Stump compression socks (JUZO sock) made from compressive fabric promote in combination with wound dressing the wound healing after amputation. It also contains or reduces stump oedema, and helps stump moulding by dissipation of oedema and facilitates early prosthetic fitting. There is also evidence to suggest that wearing the stump compression sock may reduce phantom limb sensation.

- If the patient has a potential to achieve a SIGAM mobility grade B or above, the amputee senior physiotherapist will consider measuring and issuing a stump compression sock five to six days after amputation when the stump does not require a thick dressing and level of pain allows JUZO sock fitting
- Verbal and written information will be given to the patient on how to apply and remove the stump compression sock. If there is any doubt that the patient has understood the instructions then the stump compression sock should not be issued.
- There is no clear guideline to indicate whether a stump compression sock should be worn at night, but we advise patient not to wear the sock if the amputation is due to peripheral vascular disease
- If patient has any pain or discomfort after applying the stump compression sock, day or night the stump compression sock should be left off and the senior physiotherapist will consider re measuring, and application of the sock at a later date
- Measurement and the size of the stump compression sock should be recorded in the Amputee Rehabilitation Centre patient's notes
- Each patient will be observed putting their own stump compression sock on at their physiotherapy outpatient appointment

Contraindications:

- Excessive pain
- Discolouration other than bruising
- Cellulitis
- Dermatitis
- Acute thrombophlebitis
- Infection in the residual limb (stump)
- Weeping skin of the residual limb (stump)