

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How long will I have to wear the compression stockings?

We will ask that you wear your compression stockings regularly until treatments are complete. The strength and size of the compression stockings needed (knee high or thigh high) will be determined by the location of your venous disease and the type and location of treatments completed. Not wearing your stockings may hinder your treatment outcome. If you are diagnosed with deep vein reflux, this typically warrants lifelong compression stocking use.

I have white Ted hose from a past surgery or hospitalization. May I use those instead of ordering another pair?

No. Ted hose are support stockings are designed for people lying in bed and are not medical grade compression stockings. Ted hose are not designed to compress the veins adequately to improve symptoms of venous insufficiency, prevent progression of venous insufficiency, or aid in ulcer healing. They also do not meet the requirements set forth by insurance companies for "conservative therapy".

My friend/relative has a pair of compression stockings that He/she is no longer using. May I use those?

No. Compression stockings are prescribed in a size and strength specifically for you. You must be measured by a certified stocking fitter to assure you get the appropriate size stockings. Using the wrong size stockings or stockings that are too old may cause them to feel uncomfortable limiting your ability to wear them and limiting their effectiveness. Our experienced stocking fitter will carefully measure you and order the appropriate size. To assure a proper fit, you will be given the opportunity to try your stockings on before purchasing them.

May I buy the less expensive compression stockings I Have seen in the local stores or on a website?

It is imperative that you have the correct size compression stockings in the correct strength. We discourage the purchase of compression stockings from over-the-counter retail stores or off the internet as it is difficult to ensure the appropriate strength and fit of the stockings. Also, the quality of the stocking may be suboptimal. This may lead to uncomfortable stockings which are difficult to wear and the need to replace the stockings more frequently.

The Wisconsin Vein Center stocks high quality medical grade compression stockings. Please be aware that less expensive stockings may not last as long or fit as nicely as the higher quality brands.

My thigh high stockings keep falling down. Is there anything I can do?

Your stockings may not be the correct size or they may be too old. With consistent use, a stocking maintains its compression and elasticity for about six months. After this time, it stretches out and should be replaced. Sometimes the grip top band on the top of your stocking will build up oil from your skin. This can cause the stocking to slide down.

The following options can be tried for slippage:

- Carefully wipe the "grip top" band with alcohol to clean off the oils allowing the band to stay in place.
- Use a roll-on body skin adhesive which is applied in the area of the stocking's "grip top". This can be purchased at our clinic or any medical equipment supply store.
- Use an ace bandage. Starting above the knee, wrap the ace around your thigh and continue up to the groin level to hold the stocking in place.
- Apply lotion to your legs. While your legs are still slightly damp, put on your stockings.

Please do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns!!