

# Compression Device

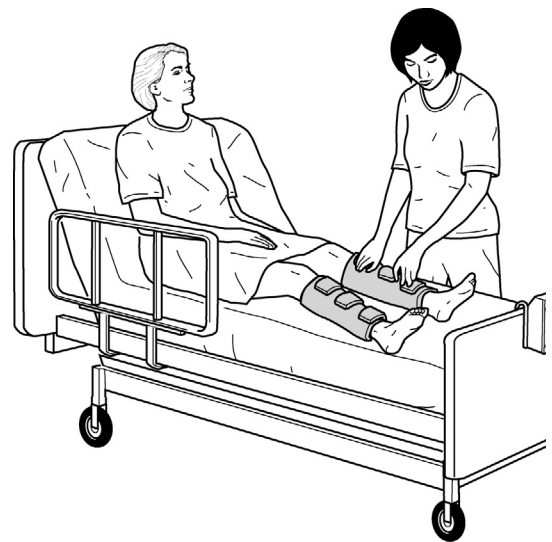
A compression device is used to prevent blood clots. When a person has limited movement, the muscles get weak and may not work as well to keep the blood flowing like it should. This can make the risk of getting blood clots higher and wearing this device can reduce the risk. They are used for people after surgery or when a person is on bed rest.

## How it works

The device is a pump and a lower leg wrap or foot wrap. The wrap is placed on the legs or feet and is held in place by Velcro strips.

A tube connects the wrap to a pump. When the pump is turned on, air is pumped into the wrap so it will feel snug on your leg or foot. This puts pressure on the muscles of your lower leg or foot.

The pressure against the muscles will help keep your blood flowing through your veins, much like if you were up walking.



## Using the device

- The device should be worn when you are in bed or sitting up in a chair.
- It should be taken off when you bathe each day so that the skin under the wrap can be checked. Let your nurse know if you have any redness or skin breakdown where the wrap was placed.
- Let your nurse know if you need help to remove or replace the wrap when you get up to walk to the bathroom or in the hall.

## Please let your doctor or nurse know right away if you have:

- Any shortness of breath
- Sudden pain in your leg
- Chest pain



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER

For more health information, go to [patienteducation.osumc.edu](http://patienteducation.osumc.edu), call 614-293-3707 or email [health-info@osu.edu](mailto:health-info@osu.edu).