#### **Precautions for Lymphoedema patients:**

Untreated, stagnant protein rich lymph fluid provides a culture medium for bacteria that can result in various infections and complications:

- Avoid infections by caring for simple cuts, scratches, burns - even insect bites (no matter how small), immediately.
- Avoid wearing anything that will constrict the limb such as jewellery, or clothing with tight cuffs, etc.
- Protect the limb from cuts, scratches, insect bites, and punctures from needles and pins on clothing, jewellery, tattoos.
- Advise medical professionals to avoid the side of the body with the affected limb when taking blood pressure, giving vaccinations and injections.
- Manicure nails carefully. Avoid cutting or tearing cuticles at risk for infection.
- Avoid burns, including sunburn of the affected limb - maintain skin integrity.
- Avoid blunt trauma in general, and sports related injuries, etc.







For more information about the Bio Compression therapy systems, please contact;

Obex Medical on 0800 656 239 or send your enquiry to sales@obex.co.nz



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# SEQUENTIAL GRADUATED COMPRESSION PUMPS

Frequently
Asked Questions

Arm
and
Hand Therapy

in the comfort of your own home





Life after a mastectomy is not easy, but there are tools to get you more comfortable and in control of your condition.

**Bio Compression Systems** offer sequential graduated compression therapy in the comfort of your home.

## Q. What are the benefits of Bio Compression Pumps?

A. They are portable, lightweight and easy to use. Garments associated to the pumps, can be standard or customised and come in different styles and sizes.

# What every woman with breast cancer should know ...

### **Signs of Lymphoedema**

- A heavy sensation or an aching discomfort in the arm
- Swelling in the breast, chest, shoulder, arm or hand
- Difficulty moving the arm
- Changes in skin texture, feels tight or hard or looks red
- Difficulty fitting into clothing in one specific area



### Q. What is secondary Lymphoedema?

A. Secondary Lymphoedema is generally caused by an obstruction, damage to or injury to the lymph system that leads to an interruption of the normal lymphatic flow.

The causes of secondary lymphoedema are multiple: infections, serious wounds, or burns when they damage or destroy lymphatics as well as radiation for cancer treatments.

Fortunately, the removal of lymph nodes for cancer biopsies has become less invasive with the improved techniques of small needle biopsies, radiological diagnostic improvements and site specific node biopsies.

#### **REDUCE EDEMA, REDUCE PAIN**

When lymphoedema is diagnosed promptly and treatment begins early, patients enjoy productive lives, with few complications. When lymphoedema remains undiagnosed or untreated, the outcome is often painful and costly.

#### **SEQUENTIAL CIRCULATORS** *are designed to:*

- Provide a "milking effect" that promotes lymphatic flow by moving fluid in a distal to proximal direction
- Reduce swelling and fibrosis (hardening), a chronic inflammatory condition stemming from the accumulation of fluid in the extremity
- Provide an easy, safe, cost-effective means of therapy in the comfort of your own home

Results from treatment with Sequential circulators

