



## New clinical guideline: pneumatic compression devices

**Summary of change:** Dell Children's Health Plan will implement the following clinical guideline effective December 1, 2019, to support the review of outpatient pneumatic compression devices (PCDs) after outpatient orthopedic procedures.

Federal and state law, as well as state contract language and CMS guidelines, including definitions and specific contract provisions/exclusions, take precedence over these prior authorization rules and must be considered first when determining coverage. **Noncompliance with new requirements may result in denied claims.**

### ***CG-DME-46 Pneumatic Compression Devices for Prevention of Deep Vein Thrombosis of the Lower Limbs***

This document addresses the use of PCDs for the prevention of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) of the lower limbs. This therapy involves the use of an inflatable garment and an electrical pneumatic pump. The garment is intermittently inflated and deflated with cycle times and pressures that vary between devices. PCDs are used in clinics, or can be purchased or rented for home use for prevention and treatment of a number of conditions. This document only addresses the home use of PCDs for post-outpatient orthopedic procedures.

**Note:** This document addresses devices for the prevention of DVT only. Pneumatic devices used in the treatment or prevention of lymphedema, venous insufficiency or therapy for musculoskeletal injuries are **not** addressed in this document, nor are devices for prevention of DVT post-major surgical procedures.

### **Not medically necessary**

The use of PCDs for prevention of thromboembolism of the lower-limbs following outpatient orthopedic surgery is considered **not medically necessary** for all indications. To view this guideline, visit the [Medical Policies and Clinical Utilization Management Guidelines page](#).

### **What if I need assistance?**

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services toll free at 1-888-821-1108.

