



WOUND HEALING

ISCHAEMIC COMPLICATIONS OF GRADUATED COMPRESSION STOCKINGS IN VENOUS LEG ULCERS TREATMENT

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Objectives: The aim of the study is to compare ischaemic complications of graduated compression stockings in venous leg ulcers treatment with two different sub-bandage pressure values in relation to age.

Methods: The study included 102 outpatients with venous leg ulcers, one group with moderate compression pressure of 35–40mmHg and the second with high pressure >45 mmHg. Each group was divided into two subgroups according to the age (≥ 65 vs. <65 years). Paresthesia, superficial skin necrosis and skin discoloration were followed as unwanted effects of compressive therapy.

Results: Cox regression model showed that there was a statistically significant risk of paraesthesia ($p = 0.039$) and superficial skin necrosis ($p = 0.02$) in patients age ≥ 65 treated with compression therapy high vs moderate pressure. In patients age <65, there is a higher prevalence of superficial skin necrosis treated with high pressure ($p = 0.35$).

There is no statistically significant difference in the presence of skin discoloration in age ≥ 65 and age <65 treated with high and moderate pressure.

Conclusion: A higher degree of compressive therapy in both age groups leads to an increase in patients with paraesthesia and superficial skin necrosis. To prevent compression complication, the compression must be assessed by the dermatologist and the patient informed that any persistent pain needs to be identified.

