

The structure of a bandage redirects the energy of the working muscle inward, effectively squeezing the edematous compartment.

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Lymphedema Therapy



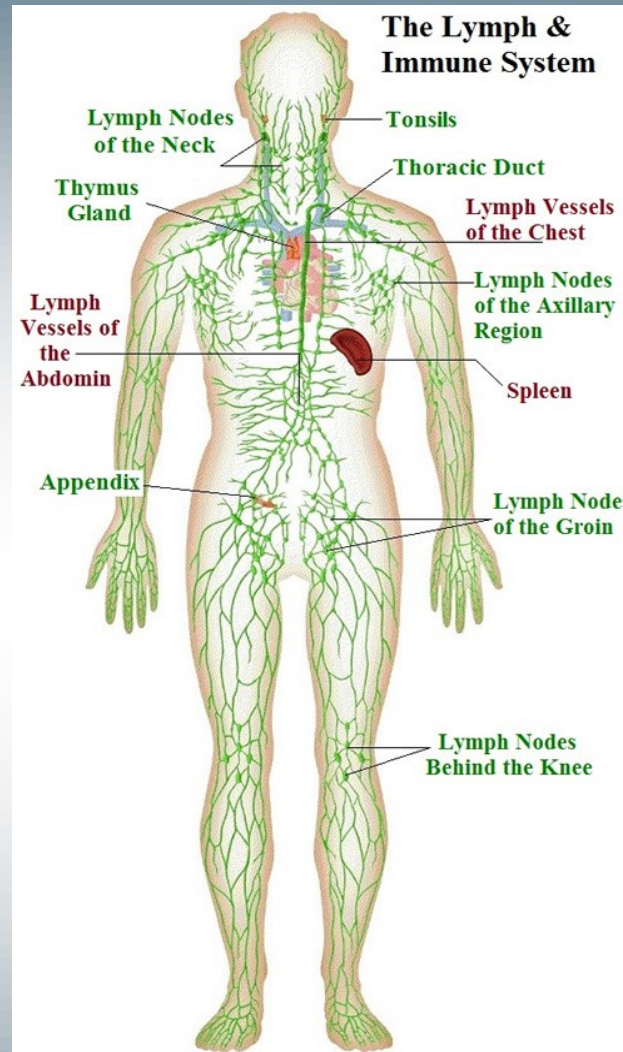
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What is Lymphedema?

Lymphedema is a swelling of a body part-most often the extremities-but also the face, neck, abdomen or genitals. It is the result of the abnormal accumulation of protein rich edema fluid in the affected area.

What causes Lymphedema?

One of the causes of lymphedema is surgery to remove lymph nodes, usually during cancer treatment. Normally, lymph nodes filter fluid as it flows through them, trapping bacteria, viruses, and other foreign substances, which are then destroyed by special white blood cells called lymphocytes. Without normal lymph drainage, fluid can build up in the affected arm or leg, and lymphedema can develop. Medicines and injury to the lymph nodes can also cause lymphedema.



How is Lymphedema treated?

PHYSICAL THERAPY CAN HELP!

Treatment for lymphedema depends on its cause and includes wearing compression garments such as stockings or sleeves, proper diet and skincare, and fluid drainage.

Lymphedema bandaging is a multi-layered system of short stretch, non-elastic pure cotton bandages, which are applied over padding to create compression and comfort around the circumference of the involved area. Our physical therapy department has a full-time Certified Lymphedema Therapist on staff ready to help!

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