

June 2013

-The first slide proposes to show some classes used all over the world.

As it is shown you can see it is not uniform: Each country has their own class.

-The French and the English one are not far from. German, the Italian and Switzerland are not far from too.

-About this table several remarks can be done:

- -First of all very often there are some spaces between classes. In other word the ranges are not closed!
- We can make some criticisms on the French one: The class I goes from 10-15 mmHg, the class II from 15-20. The class III goes from 20 to 35! It is very coherent and logical!
- We have asked to the French Government to accept

-Can we found and propose a unique system which could be used by all the countries? The answer: "Yes we can and we have to!"

The only reasonable and easy system that we can propose is the **mmHg**

Reasons:

- It is an **international unit**
- All over the world GP are using it, at list when they took the **blood pressure**
- In our vascular area the **foot** blood pressure is taken in mmHg
- When the **superimposed technique** is used the final pressure is the **sum** of each elastic stockings pressure in mmHg (but not in class)
In the Laboratory two 20 mmHg superimposed elastic stockings give 40 mmHg (with the class system it is nearly impossible to used the addition).
- It is the same with the "resistance" of a medical compression stocking: one MCS of 1.5 mmHg /cm resistance (obtained on a hysteresis curve), two of the same MCS put one over the first MCS the resistance is 3 mmHg /cm (1, 2).
We hope that we will obtain the same result with the *in vivo Stiffness*
- In the same idea it will be a good idea to find similar system for the size of the stockings in older to have the same language for Manufactories, Doctors, Medical shops and Patients.

The difficulty is to convince Manufactories: Change the habits is always complex and takes time.

Doctor André Cornu-Thenard, MD, FACPh

1- Cornu-Thenard A. The Hysteresis curves are mandatory in order to characterize a MCS. Swiss Med. 1988, 10, N°4a, 64-6

2- Cornu-Thenard A, Benigni JP, Uhl J.F. Terminology: Resistance or Stiffness for Medical Compression Stockings. Veins and Lymphatics. 2013; 2:e4