Classification of Compression Stockings
ICC Meeting, Copenhagen
Change of Classification: Pro

17th May 2013, Uwe Meyer
medi GmbH & Co. KG
Classification of Compression Stockings

Is a change of classification for medical stockings possible?

Yes!

What would be the alternatives and consequences?
What are the current classifications and standards?

1. The French Standard AFNOR
2. The British Standard
3. The American Classification
4. The CEN Pre-Standard ENV 12718
5. The RAL-GZG Standard and Classification
International Compression Classes

Germany

England

France

USA

\[
\begin{align*}
1 \text{ mmHg} &= 1.33 \text{ hPa} = 0.133 \text{ kPa} \\
1 \text{ kPa} &= 10 \text{ hPa} = 7.5 \text{ mmHg}
\end{align*}
\]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compression class (US Standard)</th>
<th>Compression class (AFNOR)</th>
<th>Compression class (AFNOR)</th>
<th>Compression class (RAL - GZG / ENV)</th>
<th>Compression at the ankle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ccl</td>
<td>Ccl</td>
<td>Ccl</td>
<td>Ccl</td>
<td>HPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ccl</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mmHg 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/20</td>
<td>I légère</td>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>not applicable</td>
<td>20 to 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/30</td>
<td>II moyenne</td>
<td>15/20</td>
<td>I mild high</td>
<td>24 to 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30/40</td>
<td>III forte</td>
<td>20/36</td>
<td>II moderate</td>
<td>31 to 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40/50</td>
<td>IV extra forte</td>
<td>&gt;36</td>
<td>III strong</td>
<td>45 to 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 high</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IV very strong</td>
<td>65 and higher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) The values indicate the compression exerted by the hosiery at a hypothetical cylindrical ankle.

2) 1 mmHg = 1,333 hPa.
Epidemiological study to investigate the prevalence and severity of chronic venous disorders in the German population

**Conclusions:** Every 6th man and every 5th woman aged between 18 and 79 years have chronic venous insufficiency. The data show that venous disorders are still highly prevalent, but the severity of chronic venous insufficiency has diminished over the past 20 years.
Bonn Vein Study Part I and II

…were supported among others by the EUROCOM

“European Manufactures Federation for Compression Therapy“

In Germany, „Eurocom“ and „Quality Seal Association for Medical Compression Stockings“ guarantee the high quality classification and standard by permanent and compulsory quality controls via the HOSY TESTING DEVICE SYSTEM
Hosy Testing System
What are doctors and patients expecting from a classification and standard of compression stockings?

- **Doctors**
  - Highest possible therapy success and an orientation for clinical studies

- **Venous patients**
  - Highest possible therapy success and an excellent compliance
A quality-orientated high standard and a classification for medical compression stockings with a regular and compulsory quality control is the best security and protection for therapy success and good compliance.
Worst case scenario:

A weak standard and classification with voluntarily quality control is dangerous for doctors and venous patients:

Future worst case scenario:

Chinese medical stockings which fulfill weak classifications and standards but without the right compression and good compliance
Worldmap MCS-Standards
RAL-GZG, AFNOR, BSI
Proposal and recommendation

If we need a general classification and standard for medical compression stockings worldwide, we should use the RAL-Quality Standard!

For the comparison of clinical and medical studies, the American Classification could be a general orientation and guideline!
Thank you ICC!

**What kind of Club is the ICC?**

It is a kind of compression family with nice doctors, colleagues and friends in a special atmosphere!

Thank you Giovanni and Hugo!!

Giovanni Mosti  
Hugo Partsch
Thank you for your attention!