

# Why Is INELASTIC

## Static Compression: Elastic Compression Stockings

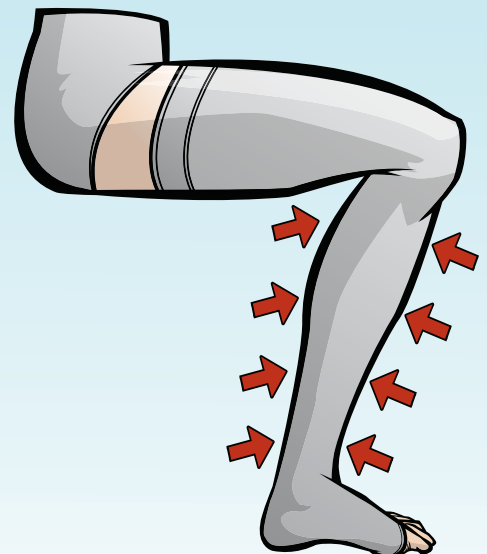
Compression stockings, both circular and flat knit, are based on the use of elastic fibers such as spandex or latex. It is this elastic fiber that enables the stocking to provide compression and also to stretch in order to apply the stocking to the limb. Because of the elastic nature of the stocking design, stockings provide a consistent or static compression to the limb. When an individual changes position such as moving from supine to standing the limb circumference changes. And with the elastic nature of the stocking it stretches to accommodate the change in circumference and will maintain a fairly consistent compression level regardless of position or movement.

This is particularly beneficial when a patient experiences a reduction in limb size due to the removal of excess edema in the treated limb. However it also requires that the compression stocking be removed when in a supine position (sleeping) because a consistent high compression level may result in pain in the limbs due to the decreased venous pressure.

Standing, with an elastic stocking



Sitting, with an elastic stocking



## Compression level remains the same as patient stands or walks

At rest, with an elastic stocking

