



TETRA

Medical Supply Corp.

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Tetra-Grip Tubular Elastic Support Bandage

In-Service Handout

Tetra-Grip is a **Tubular Elastic Bandage**. Tubular in design, elastic which is a raw material component used in the construction to create elasticity, and is a bandage which is simply defined as a “piece of material” used to wrap or cover a body part. Bandages are further defined as a material applied around a part of the body in a variety of ways to secure a dressing, maintain pressure over a compress, or immobilize a limb or other part of the body.

Tubular elastic bandages commonly get confused with tubular stockinettes because, at a glance, they look similar. They are both “tubular” but the difference is that cotton stockinettes are designed to be a barrier or a light covering. They have some memory retention, but no significant compression.

Tubular bandages can be measured in **mmHg** which stands for **millimeters of mercury**, a unit of measuring pressure. mmHg refers to how tight the compression is around the extremity. The higher the mmHg number, the greater the compression.

Primary uses for Tetra-Grip Tubular Elastic Bandages:

Designed to provide both compression and support, Tetra-Grip is excellent for edema management/control, soft tissue injuries, sprains and strains to joints and muscles, or post-graft pressure for burn patients. Tubular elastic bandages are also used in treating Venous Skin Ulcers, or Stasis Leg Ulcers, where compression bandages are used to help prevent blood from pooling in the legs.

Benefits of Tetra-Grip:

- Provides continuous, even, accurate compression
- Easy to establish correct compression (mmHg) using Tetra’s Measurement/Compression Guide.
- Easy to apply. If you are just applying it directly to the extremity, you would just slip on. You could also use a stocking applicator, such as a Donner, or the Ezy-As Applicator™ (www.ezyasabc.net) if you are applying Tetra-Grip over an existing dressing.
- Latex Free. Eliminating any possibility of allergic reactions or latex sensitivities patients may have to latex.
- Single patient use, washable & reusable. Your patient can take them, and wash (hand wash, mild soap, air dry) the cut pieces, and re-use. Making this more economical for patients.
- Manufactured of a special cotton & elastomer blend using state of the art equipment that produces a consistent weave to provide accurate compression and memory.
- Stays in place without the need for clips or tape.
- Can be cut to fit extremities (such as cutting an opening for a heel area or a thumb). Construction of yarn is run-resistant.
- Available in 11 different widths

How to measure and fit:

NOTES: Tetra-Grip is only applied as a SINGLE layer only

Tetra-Grip does not have graduated compression. Do not use for DVT prophylaxis

1. Determine the amount of compression that is required.

Low compression for tubular elastic bandages is generally between 5-10 mmHg

Medium compression for tubular elastic bandages is generally between 10-20 mmHg

High compression for tubular elastic bandages is generally between 20-30 mmHg

2. Use a standard tape measure and measure the widest part of the extremity in centimeters (cm).
3. Refer to the Tetra-Grip: Measurement / Compression Guide to determine correct size.
4. Determine proper length.
 - For applications below the knee: Measure from the back of the knee to the base of the toes.
 - For applications above the knee or other areas of coverage: Measure the length needing coverage.

Measurement Examples

Example #1: Lower Leg

You need to apply 15 mmHg of compression (medium compression) to the lower leg, and you measure the calf (widest circumference of the extremity) to be 33 cm. What size of Tetra-Grip would you use?

This measurement (33 cm) is in the medium pressure compression range of size D. (Tetra # 7021-E5).

Example #2: Lower Arm

You need to apply 8-10 mmHg of compression (low compression) to the lower part of the left arm. You measure the widest part, and it measures 20 cm. What size of Tetra-Grip would you use?

This measurement (20 cm) is in the low pressure compression range for Size A. (Tetra # 7021-A1).

Example # 3: Multiple Sizes

You need to apply 25 mmHg of compression (high compression) to the right leg. Tetra-Grip does not have graduated compression. Since you are applying to a large area and the circumference would be different in various areas, you would need to apply different sizes of Tetra-Grip. What sizes would you use?

Use Size F (Tetra # 7021-F6) for the upper (60 cm) part and Size D (Tetra # 7021-D4) on the lower (38 cm) extremity.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact Tetra Medical Supply Corp. at:
(800) 621-4041 or send an email to sales@tetramed.com.