Lymphedema is chronic swelling caused by a build-up of fluid that occurs when the lymphatic system is either faulty or damaged. Medicare, and many private insurance policies do NOT cover compression garments, wraps, or bandages — the supplies needed for compression therapy. Most physicians in the United States are taught about the lymphatic system for 1 hour or less during their 4 years of medical school training.

There is no known cure for lymphedema, but it can be effectively treated. Compression therapy is the most critical component of treatment. Without it, patients are at increased risk for complications and disability.

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An estimated 3-5 million Americans suffer from lymphedema — including many that are undiagnosed or undertreated. That is more than ALS, Cystic Fibrosis, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, and Parkinson’s Disease combined.

2 out of 5 breast cancer patients will develop lymphedema within 5 years of surgery.*

Visit our website to learn more about lymphedema and how to support this bill.

LymphedemaTreatmentAct.org