

# Understanding lymphedema skin changes.<sup>1</sup>

## PAPILLOMATOSIS

Papillomas are raised wart-like growths, hard bumps/projections, that can appear with longstanding lymphedema.



## HYPERKERATOSIS

An overgrowth of the skin, like a very thick callus, where skin easily flakes.



## LYMPHORRHEA<sup>2</sup>

Skin breakdown, clear lymph fluid leaks externally, also called skin "weeping".



## ELEPHANTIASIS

Progressive enlargement of extremity, chronic fibrosis.



## HYPERPIGMENTATION

Skin discoloration, in earlier stages can be salmon pink and darkens with progression, often to brown, purple or rusty in color.



### MINIMUM INSURANCE DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PCDs:

- Diagnosis of lymphedema (I89.0, Q82.0, or I97.2)
- Lymphedema symptoms are evident in girth measurements and patient exhibits any of the skin changes shown above
- Symptoms persist after trying 4-weeks of conservative therapies, including exercise, elevation, compression/bandaging
- Patient's prognosis and clinical justification for the device are documented in the progress notes

### FOR MEDICARE SPECIFIC CRITERIA, SCAN HERE:



1. Photo permissions on file at Tactile Medical.  
 2. Lymphorrhea photo used with permission. Source: ARC Seminars. Have you seen these lymphedema skin changes? [arcseminars.net/seen-skin-changes-patients/](http://arcseminars.net/seen-skin-changes-patients/)

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