



NOTICE TO PATIENTS

WARNING! Effective September 17, 2023 Medicare Will Restrict the Skin Substitutes Available for Your Diabetic Foot or Venous Leg Ulcer

We need your help in requesting a delayed implementation to January 2024

What does this mean?

Effective September 17, 2023, Medicare has removed more than 100 skin substitutes from the list of products they will cover and pay for.

In addition, Medicare will severely limit the number of skin substitute applications that can be used to a total of 4 in a 12-week period.

How does this affect me?

If you or a loved one are a patient with a Diabetic Foot Ulcer or Venous Leg Ulcer, your provider may not be able to use Skin Substitutes to manage your wound.

If you have just begun treatment with a non-covered skin substitute, your provider will need to stop on September 17, 2023 if:

- You have received 4 applications of a skin substitute
- Medicare decided that the skin substitute your provider is using is not covered

You may be asked to:

- Sign an ABN (Advanced Beneficiary Notice) that you will receive a service and or a product not covered by Medicare; and
- You will be responsible for payment to your provider for these **VERY EXPENSIVE** limb saving grafts.

Is there anything I can do?

YES! Please email your Medicare contractor using the [sample letter](#) provided.

***There is a very small window of time to try to ensure that your care will not be disrupted.
Make your voice heard now!***

Questions? Email membership@woundcarestakeholders.org

The Alliance of Wound Care Stakeholders

The Alliance is a nonprofit multidisciplinary trade association of physician medical societies and clinical associations whose mission is to promote quality care and access to products and services for people with wounds through effective advocacy and educational outreach in the regulatory, legislative, and public arenas. Learn more at

www.woundcarestakeholders.org.