What is LYMPHEDEMA?

Lymphedema is the result of an obstruction of the venous or lymphatic systems. It can cause chronic swelling in the arms, legs, chest or back due to accumulation of protein rich fluid in the lymph channels. Patients who have undergone treatment for cancer may experience damage to their lymph nodes. This can interfere with the natural healing process of the body, increasing the risk of infection. Left untreated, lymphedema can lead to limited mobility, decreased strength and decreased range of motion.

WHO CAN BENEFIT

Patients who can benefit from our Breast Cancer Rehabilitation Program include:

• Post-mastectomy or lumpectomy patients
• Breast cancer patients post radiation and/or chemotherapy
• Patients with lymph node complications including DVT
• Those with Hodgkin’s disease

This service may be covered by your insurance.

Meet Our Breast Cancer Rehabilitation Specialist

Christianne Hippe received her Master’s of Physical Therapy from Chapman University in Orange, California in 1990. She is an Orthopedic Certified Specialist from the American Physical Therapy Association and a Certified Mulligan Practitioner in Mobilization with Movement from the Mulligan Institute in New Zealand. Christianne came to Sky Ridge Medical Center in 2007 after practicing in numerous therapy settings in Southern California. She recently completed course work in Advanced Oncology Concepts and Breast Cancer Rehabilitation. Christianne is certified as an Upper Extremity Lymphedema Therapist by the Klose Institute. She is currently our Breast Cancer Rehabilitation Specialist in the Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation Center at Sky Ridge.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 720-225-1030.