



2639 New Pinery Rd ~ Suite 2 Portage, WI 53901

Contact Us at 608.742.9356

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Lymphedema

What is Lymphedema?

Lymphedema is an accumulation of lymphatic fluid in the interstitial tissue that causes swelling, most often in the arm, leg and occasionally in other parts of the body. Lymphedema can develop when lymphatic vessels are missing or impaired (primary), or when lymph vessels are damaged or lymph nodes removed (secondary).

When the impairment becomes so great that the lymphatic fluid exceeds the lymphatic transport capacity, an abnormal amount of pro-

tein-rich fluid collects in the tissues of the affected area. Left untreated, this stagnant, protein-rich fluid not only causes tissue channels to increase in size and number, but also reduces oxygen availability in the transport system, interferes with wound healing, and provides a culture medium for bacteria that can result in lymphangitis (infection).

Lymphedema should not be confused with edema resulting from venous insufficiency, which is not lymphedema. However, untreated venous insufficiency, can progress into a

combined venous - lymphatic disorder which is treated in the same way as lymphedema.



New Life Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine has a specially trained Lymphedema therapist, Karen Neff OTR to care for those struggling with swelling concerns and symptoms.

**Free
Weight
Loss
Introduction
for your
patients**

**TUESDAY
MARCH 18TH
6:15 PM TO
6:45 PM**

**Please see
enclosed
for more
information.**

Inflammatory Manifestations of Experimental Lymphatic Insufficiency Raymon Tabibiazar, Lauren Cheung, Jennifer Han, Jeffrey Swanson, Andreas Beilhack, Andrew An, Soheil S Dadras, Ned Rockson, Smita Joshi, Roger Wagner, and Stanley G Rockson. Stanford Center for Lymphatic and Venous Disorders, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California, USA. Department of Pathology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California, USA.